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SALMON CATCHES  
MAY BE LIMITED AS  
STOCKS RUN LOW

**Barnet hold last-ditch talks on survival**



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# THE TIMES

No. 64,668

FRIDAY JUNE 11 1993

45p

## British troops disarmed by Bosnia Muslims

FROM BILL FROST IN VIETNAM

BRITISH troops in central Bosnia were yesterday disarmed at gunpoint by Muslim irregulars outside the town of Kiseljak.

The incident, the second of its type involving UN forces this week, has clearly embarrassed and angered British commanders and has led to fears that such robberies may well increase as Bosnian forces of all persuasions seek new weapons supplies.

Soon after 1.30pm yesterday a patrol of two Spartan armoured vehicles was halted at a checkpoint near a village on the outskirts of Kiseljak. A Muslim soldier indicated that he wished to speak to the commander of the leading vehicle. He climbed aboard — and promptly put an automatic rifle to the British officer's head. A group of about 40 gunmen surrounded the Spartans, training their weapons on the crews.

They removed the aerials from the armoured vehicles to

## RAF JAGUARS FOR BOSNIA

A squadron of RAF Jaguar bombers is on standby for Bosnia to protect the six proposed Muslim "safe areas" designated by the United Nations Security Council. The 12 Jaguars could also be used to add extra firepower to safeguard the lives of British troops in Bosnia if they come under serious attack.

stop British troops radioing for help, and then took half a dozen SA80 automatic rifles and two general purpose machineguns. The irregulars also stole 1,400 machinegun rounds, 560 automatic rifle bullets and two pistols.

They took the troops' flak jackets, UN combat berets, UN identification cards and money from four of the soldiers.

Threatened by fighters carrying rocket launchers, the troops were made to lie face-down on the road for ten minutes. When they were allowed to stand one Muslim fighter fired a shot at a British soldier which landed inches from his feet.

Rules of engagement prevent British troops from opening fire unless their "lives are in danger". But given the brazen nature of the theft and the danger of repetition, the regulations are to be amended in the very near future. The advice to troops will be to avoid stopping at checkpoints.

Late yesterday unidentified gunmen attacked a relief convoy of about 450 lorries en route to Tuzla. Early reports said that eight drivers had been dragged from their vehicles and shot.

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Police back-up: Alan Sugar, the Tottenham Hotspur and Amstrad chairman, being protected by police as he arrived at the High Court in London for yesterday's hearing

# Lay off me, warns Lamont, or there's worse to come

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND NICHOLAS WOOD

A FURIOUS Norman Lamont has threatened John Major with further unspecified damage unless he calls off the barrage of personal attacks being launched by the Tory high command.

The former Chancellor is understood to have told the prime minister: "You leave me alone and I'll leave you alone."

The message was not given directly to Mr Major or to Downing Street, but to an intermediary who swiftly passed it on.

The message was a clear warning that Mr Lamont believes that he can discredit Mr Major with disclosures about his conduct of government if he chooses. Although Mr Lamont declined to elaborate in an abrupt and angry conversation with the interme-

## An angry attack on Norman Lamont by the Tory chairman, Sir Norman Fowler, added to the party's strife as the former Chancellor threatened further disclosures

diary, there will be speculation that he was referring, among other things, to events up and during Black Wednesday when Britain was forced out of the European exchange-rate mechanism.

The threat will confirm the view of senior MPs that Mr Lamont, who is said to be still deeply upset by his dismissal and angered by the criticism that followed his valedictory speech in the Commons on Wednesday, could pose a dangerous menace to Mr Major on the backbenches.

His message did not, however, prevent Sir Norman

raised about £20,000 to help Mr Lamont to meet his court costs, on top of £4,000 paid by the Treasury. But yesterday, Conservative sources said that the incident had produced a flood of letters from constituents and party members cancelling donations, and the cost was put at some £500,000. A source said: "We stood by him and he has stabbed us in the back."

In a further twist yesterday, it was disclosed that Sir Norman had written Mr Lamont a supportive message after his dismissal. Relations between the two are now at an all-time low and it was clear from Mr Lamont's speech that he considered party managers such as Sir Norman to have too much influence on key government decisions. Friends say that he pins much of the blame for his dismissal on the party chairman, Sir Norman

said of Mr Lamont's statement: "It was a dud speech. It was a nasty speech, and I do not think many people are going to take much notice of Mr Lamont." He was "thrashing around to find villains for his downfall".

The prime minister, however, declined to be drawn into the row. Questioned in the Commons by John Smith about his former Chancellor's remarks, Mr Major said that Mr Lamont had said what he had to say. "I do not intend to add to what he said."

One of the most baffling features of the affair was that last weekend, Mr Lamont was telling his closest friends and allies that he had not thought of embarrassing Mr Major. The Times was told on Sunday that Mr Lamont was highly unlikely to speak in Wednesday's debate or follow the example of Lord Howe, who precipitated the leadership challenge to Baroness Thatcher in 1990. The former cabinet minister David Mellor was also misled and wrote a newspaper article to that effect. It appeared yesterday that Mr Lamont decided to go ahead at the last minute.

The decision was apparently taken in spite of advice from close friends that he should not make a personal statement critical of the prime minister, but he chose to speak out because he believed it was the right thing to do. He told MPs yesterday that he felt his speech had not been bitter and that he had stripped the emotion from his remarks.

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## Sugar says Clough wanted transfer money

BY JOHN GOODBODY SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

BRIAN Clough, who resigned as Nottingham Forest manager two months ago, wanted money for himself when transferring footballers to other clubs, it was alleged in the High Court.

The claim was made in an affidavit by Alan Sugar, chairman of Tottenham Hotspur, when the struggle for control of the London club returned to court yesterday. The allegation was denied in another affidavit by Terry Venables, his opponent in the case. Mr Venables was sacked by Mr Sugar as the club's chief executive on May 14, but was temporarily reinstated at an earlier High Court hearing.

When Mr Sugar arrived at and left the court yesterday, he was jeered and spat at by people sporting the Tottenham colours.

About 70 people crowded into the court to hear the revelations about the £2.1 million transfer of Teddy Sheringham, the England forward, from Nottingham Forest to Tottenham. In his affidavit, Mr Sugar said that when the transfer was being discussed, Mr Venables told him that Mr Clough "likes a 'bump'".

Mr Sugar said this was not his or Tottenham's way of doing business, and added that Mr Venables had said the "usual way was for Mr Clough to meet people at a motorway café and... be handed a bag of money".

In a written affidavit read in court, Mr Venables said this was "a lot of nonsense. I never used those words." Mr Clough also denied the allegation. "There was not a penny that passed between Terry Venables and me, and the last time I was in a motorway service station I went to the lavatory," he said.

Claims made public, page 3

## Tory MPs 'back Major 100%'

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND JILL SIEGEMAN

CONSERVATIVE MPs closed ranks behind John Major last night as senior ministers tried to calm the crisis of confidence surrounding his leadership.

The powerful 1922 Committee declared its "100 per cent support" for the prime minister and the decision was loudly cheered when it was reported to a full meeting of Tory backbenchers — including Norman Lamont.

Sir Marcus Fox, the committee chairman, said that all speakers had "conclud-

ed that John Major is our prime minister and will remain our prime minister for a long time to come". Asked why it had been felt necessary to deliver a vote of confidence, Sir Marcus said: "The press and media have been having a field day, trying to make out, somehow, that there are deep divisions in our party. We all agreed we will rally behind John Major. I hope that is understood around the country as a whole."

The prime minister had earlier chaired the first meeting of his reshuffled cabinet before giving a relaxed performance in the Commons, where he tried to make

light of Mr Lamont's vengeful resignation speech, dismissing it as "a little difficulty" — the phrase chosen by Harold Macmillan after three Treasury ministers resigned in 1958. He then began the task of rallying Tory MPs by brushing aside John Smith's demand for a general election. To loud cheers he said: "You may have overlooked it, but we had an election last year. We won it and you lost it. The score is four-nil in elections recently — in due course it will be five-nil."

Earlier, opposition leaders had intensified the pressure on Mr Major, declaring

Continued on page 2, col 5

## £2.8bn loss a record for Lloyd's

BY SARAH BAGNALL INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

DAVID Rowland, chairman of Lloyd's of London, confirmed yesterday that names, many of whom already face bankruptcy, are to be affected by record losses this summer.

Mr Rowland said that the losses, due to be unveiled on July 22, will not be "enormously different from earlier estimates of £2.5 billion to £2.8 billion". The insurance market's investors are also expected to suffer losses of more than £1 billion next year, which relate to 1991 risks.

## Magistrates divided on the perils of pets left home alone

BY JOE JOSEPH

TWO contradictory court judgments yesterday suggest that while it is perfectly legal to leave tropical fish to amuse themselves, the full force of the law will come down on anybody who might abandon a pet rat.

In the first judgment of Solomon, Wells Street magistrates in central London ordered Lisa Chapman, an unemployed waitress, to pay £130 for abandoning her rat, Ziggy, at a south London flat. The case put the RSPCA under fire, not just because it cost £600 to press, but because many find it tricky to tell what constitutes cruelty to

vermin which can be killed legally — using saw-toothed traps sold in almost any hardware store.

Then, retelling the scales of justice, magistrates at Maidenhead, Berkshire, cleared David Sharrod, a 37-year-old electrician prosecuted by the RSPCA for abandoning his South American sucking loach and sucking piec fish. Experts put the cost of the case at more than £8,000. Mr Sharrod said his legal fees topped £2,000. His triumph was to produce a book by an RSPCA expert that said it was safe to leave fish alone for up to two weeks.

Miss Chapman, 23, was fined £80 and ordered to pay

£50 costs for leaving Ziggy unattended for six days with only a scrap of cheese. The court also heard that Ziggy was "extremely depressed". An RSPCA inspector found Ziggy trembling, dehydrated and close to death. The brown and white hooded rat, aged 2½, recovered only to die a few days later from bronchial pneumonia, starvation and emaciation.

Asked why she left Ziggy starving, Miss Chapman said: "I was starving, too, and I had nowhere to live. It was my rat, and nobody else's. My sister gave it to me as a present and I loved him to death."

## Les Dawson dies at 59

LES Dawson, above, the northern comic whose versatility kept him at the top through out a long showbusiness career, died yesterday after he collapsed while sitting an out-patient hospital at a Manchester.

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**MATTHEW PARRIS**  
POLITICAL SKETCH

## MPs join queue to stand up and be discounted

There was another personal statement yesterday. There seem to be personal statements on most days now. Government grinds to a halt as MPs rush into the Chamber to listen to each other making their personal positions clear.

That their personal positions are a matter of profound indifference to most of the country, escapes them. That most of their fellow-citizens retire, resign or lose their jobs or without any opportunity to broadcast their feelings to the nation, in no wise abates MPs in the endeavour.

Their statements are really directed to each other, not their constituents — who, after all, can forget the personal statement from Geoffrey Dickens (C, Littleborough & Saddleworth) to announce that he had just left his wife, but would we please not contact her until he had been able to phone her himself to break the news?

David Mellor made his statement after resigning; Norman Lamont made a statement after being sacked; yesterday a little known junior minister, Archie Hamilton, made a statement to explain that he had resigned, not been sacked. Soon we shall witness ministers making personal statements explaining why they have not resigned; or why they may or may not do so next week, depending on their feelings.

We still await a personal statement from Kenneth Carlisle, the likeable and low-key Lincoln MP who stepped down from a junior ministerial position in the transport department two weeks ago. A few well-chosen words, perhaps, on the privilege it has passed round Little Itchington and arrange for sound-deadening earthworks alongside the A1; a short but heartfelt message of support for the prime minister; and an expression of pleasure at the prospect of

spending more time with his wife, Carla...

Really one begins to wonder whether reciprocal arrangements might not be made for ordinary voters who lose their jobs. At present they are obliged to take their chances of getting a letter printed in the paper, or try telephoning an insomniac chat-line on the local radio. Instead, perhaps, members of the public might be allowed to rise in their places in the Strangers' Gallery at the Commons...

*Madam Speaker: "Mr Arthur Higginbotham — Personal Statement"*

*Mr Higginbotham: "Madam Speaker, the House may not know that yesterday I was made redundant by Essex Mobile Phone and Red Braces Distribution, plc: that my house has just been repossessed by the Barchester Building Society; and that this morning my wife was eaten by a shark. I should like to place on record my hopes for the future prosperity of my previous employers, my good wishes to the building society in securing a good price for my home, and my forgiveness to the shark."*

*I blame Mrs Thatcher. (Cries of hear, hear). I turn now to the overriding need, as I have always seen it, for a coherent transport strategy. As friends and colleagues will know, I have consistently argued, in the workplace, the morning train to Fenchurch Street, and the Cock & Fiddle, for greater investment in the infrastructure. I am also deeply concerned at NHS waiting lists... and so on.*

Yesterday, as Archie Hamilton reached the key soundbite in his own personal statement — "I intend to support my government from the backbenches" — there were gasps from MPs. Poor Archie. He seems to have missed the point of these occasions.

## En route to America, a mid-Pacific pit stop for British raft adventurers



Tide of fortune: Tim Severin and crew, rafting east across the Pacific, greet Taiwan Yachting Association members bearing much needed supplies and a radio

## Leak reveals Lilley plan to cut invalidity benefit

By JILL SHERMAN  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PROPOSALS to exclude up to 60,000 people from invalidity benefit have been disclosed in a leaked memo to the prime minister from Peter Lilley, the social security secretary.

The proposals include tougher medical tests and other benefit restrictions that would save £180 million in 1995-6, and £1.3 billion by the end of the century.

The letter, following a meeting between Mr Lilley and Michael Portillo, chief treasury secretary, on Wednesday, also suggests that the benefit (IVB) should be targeted, made "less generous" and be taxed.

The correspondence, which precedes a meeting with the prime minister next Tuesday, makes clear that although broad agreement was reached Mr Portillo is pushing for even harder cuts. Mr Lilley, however, claims that further measures to reduce the benefit levels would not be "deliver-

**Proposed cuts in invalidity benefit will only add to the government's difficulties in the Christchurch by-election**

able". He adds: "I am not convinced that the savings involved would be worth the political risk."

Mr Portillo had suggested saving £250 million in 1995-6, £500 million in 1996-7 and £1.5 billion in 2000-1. The only way to achieve that would be to abolish all additions to IVB except those for children and partners caring for dependent children, Mr Lilley said.

Most of Mr Lilley's proposals were floated in last year's public expenditure round and it was widely expected that tougher measures would be introduced last autumn.

However, following an intense battle with cabinet colleagues only limited measures to tighten medical checks were introduced. "You will recall that I proposed a number of

cost-cutting measures for IVB in last year's public expenditure round. In the event, I could not command sufficient support from colleagues for the primary legislation which would have been necessary to take these measures through. I think the climate of opinion has now changed."

Mr Lilley accepted in his letter that the plans, which will hit those reaching retirement age hardest, will cause "some outrage". Coupled with VAT on fuel and the prospect of forcing women to work five years longer as a result of equalising the pension age to 65, the proposals may be difficult to get through the House of Commons. The government is also likely to be embarrassed by the leaked documents before the impending by-election at Christ-

church, where 34 per cent of the population are pensioners. The draft letter, which arrived at the Press Association offices yesterday afternoon, was part of an internal fax addressed to a dozen civil servants within the social security department. It argues that 1.5 million people currently receive the benefit, and that is expected to rise to 1.8 million in 1995-6. Spending is expected to rise from the present £6.2 billion to £8.2 billion in 1995-6.

In the letter Mr Lilley said: "I propose a three-pronged course, which would focus the benefit more closely on the long-term sick, make it less generous and make it taxable." He added: "The changes I am proposing now would restrict access by the introduction of a new medical test."

Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, said the letter was an extraordinary document, revealing not only the loss of direction of the government but the loss of integrity.

## New fines system for magistrates

By RICHARD FORD  
HOME CORRESPONDENT

MAGISTRATES will have unfettered powers to increase fines according to a defendant's financial circumstances, under proposals unveiled today to replace the unit-fine system.

The government is determined to maintain the principle of higher penalties for the better off, but without the precise formula that produced huge fines for minor offences and first-time offenders.

Michael Howard, the home secretary, said: "The amendment does away with unit fines while giving the court the power to raise or lower a fine. It requires that they enquire into and take account of the financial circumstances when fixing the level of a fine. The unit system ended up as a rigid and mechanistic approach to this question."

The government is amending another section of the Criminal Justice Act so that magistrates can take account of previous convictions.

Other changes to be announced today are amendments to the Criminal Justice Bill, currently going through Parliament, which will increase the maximum sentence for causing death by dangerous driving from five to ten years and an attempt to curb offending while on bail.

## Tory chiefs disregard student poll

By NICHOLAS WOOD  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CONSERVATIVE party chiefs have over-ruled the views of their student leaders and appointed a pro-European to lead one of their main youth organisations.

In a move highlighting the concern at central office over the internal feuding over Maastricht, Conor Burns, who worked as a researcher for Bill Cash, a leading Eurosceptic MP, was denied the post in spite of winning a poll of branch chairmen.

The postal vote among the leaders of the Conservative Collegiate Forum resulted in a 23-16 win for Mr Burns over his pro-European rival Tim Kavan. But Mr Kavan was appointed by Gerry Malone, a Tory party deputy chairman, to the £9,000-a-year job as CCF national student director.

A separate vote among the forum's national committee ended with a three-vote majority for Mr Kavan, but Mr Burns said last night that overall he was still the winner. However, a Tory party spokesman said that party chiefs had been within their rights to choose Mr Kavan.

Mr Burns, 21, bitterly attacked the central office move. "The line from central office seems to be, 'You think what you like, we know better.'"

## Rifkind seeks 2,200 RAF redundancies

Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, yesterday announced that 2,200 redundancies are being sought in a second round of cuts in the Royal Air Force. Last year, 1,150 redundancies, all voluntary, were ordered.

Under the Options for Change defence cuts, the RAF is being reduced from 89,000 to 75,000 men by 1995. Most of these reductions are expected to be achieved through natural wastage. In the latest redundancy round, the ministry is looking for about 500 officers and the rest from other ranks. RAF sources said the 2,200 figure was about double what had been expected.

Although it is hoped there will be enough volunteers, it is possible that some of the redundancies may have to be compulsory. All the cuts will be in support units.

Bombers on standby, page 11

## IRA admits attacks

The IRA yesterday admitted causing explosions at gas and petroleum installations on Tyneside. Two blasts at the Esso petroleum terminal in North Shields on Wednesday night followed a blast which set fire to a gas storage tank in Gateshead. The incidents have raised fears that an IRA cell is active on Tyneside with the aim of carrying out further destruction among the many petro-chemical facilities in the area. Northumbria police said that no prior warnings had been given of either attack.

## Pollution centre blow

The Warren Spring Laboratory at Stevenage, Hertfordshire, one of Europe's most important environmental research centres, is to close. It will merge with two laboratories run by AEA Technology at Abingdon, Oxfordshire, to create a national research centre. Up to 130 out of 280 jobs are expected to be lost.

## Cocklers pick in peace

Police in South Wales were yesterday monitoring an uneasy truce between rival groups of cockle pickers after skirmishes earlier in the week over the right to gather the region's most famous seafood delicacy on the same cockle bed at Ferry-side, south of Carmarthen, in Dyfed. Police said both groups were now picking side by side.

## Nickell fears rekindled

Police are to relaunch mountain-bike patrols on Wimbledon Common after a young girl was attacked when riding less than a mile from the spot where Rachel Nickell was stabbed to death 11 months ago. The daylight assault has rekindled fears about security on one of south London's most beautiful and popular tracts of open land.

## Girl found in hospital

Police are appealing for the mother of an abandoned toddler to come forward after the child, right, who calls herself Debbie, was found in Arrowe Park Hospital, Wirral, Merseyside, on Wednesday. In a red purse she had a note which read: "I am a very good little girl. My mum loves me but can't look after me anymore. Please find me a new mum who will love me a lot and look after me."



## Stonehenge sealed off

The home secretary has ordered an exclusion zone around Stonehenge to prevent a summer solstice invasion by travellers. Michael Howard yesterday approved a ban on processions of two or more people within four miles of the stones. The order will run from midnight on June 17 to midnight on June 21.

## THE SAIGON EXPERIENCE

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## Tory MPs '100% behind Major'

Continued from page 1

that he was on the way out. Mr Smith said: "I do believe that the prime minister's credibility and authority and his capacity to govern have been gravely undermined by his former Chancellor, while Paddy Ashdown said that Mr Major's credibility and authority could not be regained after Mr Lamont's attack."

Mr Smith later told Mr Major during question time that the significance of Mr Lamont's revelations was that they came from a close ally who sat beside him at the heart of government. "Who is better placed to know than the ex-Chancellor the weaknesses of this administration and the weaknesses of you?"

Michael Heseltine insisted, however, that Mr Lamont's assault would quickly fade from the headlines and a succession of other cabinet ministers countered Mr

Lamont's attack on the way Mr Major conducts his government. Michael Howard, the home secretary, said the government had to consider the popularity of its policies. It would be "foolish in the extreme" for a government with a majority of 18 to act in the same way as a government with a majority of 100.

Mr Major is himself expected to tackle head-on Mr Lamont's charge that he is guilty of "short-termism". In a speech to the Welsh Tory conference tonight, he will insist that the government does face up to tough long-term decisions, citing the battle over the Maastricht treaty and the long battle to defeat inflation.

Douglas Hurd is also planning a speech tonight in which he will call on the government and the party to stay united in the face of its present difficulties. The former armed services minister

Archie Hamilton meanwhile took a gentle swipe at Mr Lamont when he made his own personal statement to the Commons about his departure from the government. Mr Hamilton said that he had asked Mr Major in January if he could leave the government in the next reshuffle. "As a result of the unexpected timing, I may run the risk that some may think I did not go voluntarily but was sacked," he said, going on to amuse MPs with a short, self-mocking statement. "When I look back to see what mark I have made in the history books, I'm afraid the view is somewhat obscured by the enraged faces of mainly retired army officers who have seen their corps amalgamated or their regimental bands wound up," he said. "Some admirals still blame me for the decision to send Wrens to sea."



# Kidnapper weeps as letter is read to court

By PAUL WILKINSON

MICHAEL Sams, the man who kidnapped the Birmingham estate agent Stephanie Slater, wept in the dock yesterday as a letter he wrote to police about her abduction was read at Nottingham Crown Court.

Mr Sams claimed in the letter that he was concerned only for her welfare during the seven days he held her chained, blindfolded and gagged inside a narrow coffin-like box. He believed that a relationship had been built between him and his victim, then aged 25.

"My thoughts were for Stephanie and for her parents," he wrote in the letter, read by Richard Wakerley QC, for the prosecution. Mr Sams said he had given her his word that he had never killed before and that, provided she co-operated, she would be released unharmed.

"The only promise I broke was the time I said that I would return once... I did not come back until 11. It was the first time I had seen her. She collapsed in my arms with relief. Her own tears kept from her the sight of my tears of relief streaming down my face."

As Mr Wakerley read the letter, Mr Sams bit his lip and brushed his hand across his eyes. The letter went on: "I am disgusted and ashamed of the suffering I have caused her. She will get over it in a few days. Me? I don't think I ever will."

At that point Mr Wakerley turned to the jury and said: "It is all utter nonsense, isn't it?" He said that Mr Sams had written the letter anonymously to deny connections being made in the media between Miss Slater's kidnapping and the murder in July 1991 of Julie Dart, a teenage prostitute from Leeds.

Mr Sams, 51, from Sutton on Trent, Nottinghamshire, has admitted kidnapping and unlawfully imprisoning Miss Slater in January 1992 and

demanding a ransom of £175,000 from her employer, Shipways' estate agents, of Sutton Coldfield.

He denies kidnapping, imprisoning and murdering Dart, 18, and demanding a £140,000 ransom from police. He also denies seeking to obtain £200,000 from British Rail by threatening to derail a train.

Mr Wakerley told the jury how forensic scientists had been able to recover a document deleted from the memory of Mr Sams's word processor. It was a draft statement to police about a meeting in the red-light district of Leeds with a prostitute called Julie D. Counsel suggested Mr Sams had prepared it to throw the police off his trail if they had traced him after the woman's disappearance.

It purported to tell how he had picked up Dart for sex and how afterwards she had driven off with another man. In reality, said Mr Wakerley, Mr Sams had got Dart into his car and then abducted her. The accused told police that a friend had written it on his word processor.

Mr Wakerley said there was a series of similarities between the two abductions which must drive the jury to the conclusion that they had been carried out by the same person. Letters sent to the police contained the same spelling errors, details of the ransom delivery were identical and the couriers had been ordered to go to the Dove Valley ramblers' trail near Barnsley, South Yorkshire.

Carpet fibres found with Dart's body matched ones in Mr Sams' workshop and a bloodstain found at the workshop matched her blood group.

The trial continues today. A photograph accompanying yesterday's trial report was not that of Julie Dart, but of a policewoman concerned with the case. We apologise for the error.

## Allegations of secret soccer payments make history in the High Court

By JOHN GOODBODY  
SPORTS NEWS  
CORRESPONDENT

THE claim by Alan Sugar, the Tottenham chairman, that Brian Clough, the former Nottingham Forest manager, wanted money for himself when transferring players, is the first time that allegations of undercover payments in football have been made in the High Court.

The Premier League say that provided that the directors are aware of such a transaction, there is nothing against it in the league's regulations.

However, opponents of the alleged practice say that a manager might not be able to act in his club's or the player's best interests in the transfer, but instead may be influenced by the money that he could accrue for himself by completing the deal.

The hearing before Sir Donald Nicholls, Vice Chancellor of the Supreme Court, is an attempt by Sugar to discharge the injunction granted to Terry Venables to remain as chief executive of Tottenham Hotspur.

Sugar owns 46% of the shares and is supported by Tony Berry, who owns between four and eight per cent of the shares. Venables, as a director, owns 23 per cent.

However, Martin Mann QC, for Venables, yesterday tried to show that although there was an unequal balance of shares, Sugar and Venables had an agreement of a "joint venture" when they took over the club in a battle with the late Robert Maxwell in June 1991. Mann described it as a "balanced board."

Tottenham Hotspur is likely to go into the new season with the dispute between Sugar and Venables still unresolved, leaving the Premier League club in limbo.

The hearing to discharge the injunction granted to Venables to remain as chief executive will be followed by a hearing of an alleged contempt of court against Sugar. The Tottenham chairman is alleged to have made a threat against Jonathan Crystal, a board member and friend of Venables.

Then there will be a further court case to decide who actually should run the north London club and this could stretch into the new season, with the club unable to function properly because of the dispute.



Court support: Venables fans with a cut-out of the chief executive at the hearing

No new players can be bought and it is uncertain who will be training the team for the season which begins in August.

Before reading extracts from the 2,500 pages of evidence, Mr Mann applied for a contempt of court order against the Tottenham chair-

man alleging a threat against Mr Crystal.

The alleged contempt was said to have been committed on June 1. Mr Mann said: "Mr Crystal's affidavit was seriously delayed because of the threat that publication would affect his professional career and would have ad-

verse effects on his family."

However, Mr Philip Heslop QC, representing Sugar, persuaded the judge to postpone the contempt hearing until after the attempt to discharge the injunction is concluded.

The hearing continues today.

## Game's tradition of a few bob in a boot

By KERRI PIKE

STORIES of irregular payments in football are as old as the game itself. In the amateur days it was a few bob stuffed into a boot which persuaded some players to turn out for one club rather than another: now, it has been alleged, the sums involved are huge, with managers occasionally the beneficiaries.

The Inland Revenue is reportedly investigating alleged irregularities involving transfers and payments made to players. Investigators in Solihull, West Midlands, have looked at the books of many of Britain's 130 professional clubs, examining transfer fees, money paid to agents and other cash payments to players and officials. So far, no evidence of any impropriety has been found.

The FA Premier League has said it will examine reports that secret cash payments have been made to leading football figures but will consider action only if the club directors have not been informed. "Even if they were not informed this is not necessarily a breach of Premier League regulations," a spokesman said.

The Football League has always come down hard on clubs found guilty of breaching financial regulations. In 1967 Peterborough United was demoted one division for making illegal payments to players, and in 1968 Port Vale was expelled from the league for a similar offence, although they were re-elected for the next season.

Sunderland, Leyton Orient, Fulham and Wimbledon were among clubs also fined, but the most infamous case came three years ago when Swindon Town, which had won promotion to the first division for the first time, was demoted to the third division after admitting 36 charges of making irregular payments to players over four years. They were reinstated to the second division on appeal.

Two years later the then manager, Lou Macari, was cleared of defrauding the Inland Revenue by giving tax-free payments to players, but Brian Hillier, the club's

former chairman, and Vivien Farrar, its former accountant, were convicted and given jail sentences. During the trial, Macari told the court: "You know that other clubs are doing exactly the same thing."

More recently, allegations were made that managers were also guilty of receiving irregular payments. Mel Stein, the lawyer who acts as adviser to England international players Paul Gascoigne, Alan Shearer and Chris Waddle, has claimed that some managers will not do business with honest agents because they do not receive "kick-backs".

Defending the role of agents in negotiations, he was



quoted as saying in the magazine *Football Management*: "There is enormous corruption within the game, and the game does not want to clean up its act. There are too many vested interests, too many people... who do not want football to be cleaned up."

The claims were dismissed by the League Managers' Association. Frank Clark, who succeeded Brian Clough as manager of Nottingham Forest, was quoted as saying: "It is not the first time that Mel has made this kind of wild accusation. We have now taken legal advice about it. We have written to Mel saying if he has any proof we would like him to forward it to us. If he hasn't got any, he should shut up."

## Les Dawson, comic who made vulgarity funny

By KATE ALDERSON AND ROBIN STACEY

LES DAWSON, who died yesterday aged 59 while on a routine hospital visit, was one of the last great exponents of Blackpool seafront humour.

Fat ladies, mother-in-law jokes and outside lavatories were his staples. While millions tuned in for his gurning asides to camera and deadpan putdowns of guests on *Blankety Blank*, Dawson was one of a diminishing comic breed who refused to believe that dressing up as a gossip housewife or dancing in pantomime with the Roly Polys was a dated comic format.

A few years ago he summarised his humour: "Whatever I do, I talk about family life, death, marriage, children, wife, mother-in-law. They are the basis of all humour, and everything I do is done with affection."

Last Sunday Dawson seemed fit and well as he drove a vintage Rolls-Royce from Manchester to Blackpool in an annual rally. He joked then: "It broke down half-way and I had to push-start it. That proves I'm getting fitter."

Dawson was overjoyed at the birth of his fourth child last year. He credited Tracey, his second wife, with helping him over the pain of seeing his first wife, Meg, die from cancer in 1986. The round Mancu-

nian's sardonic style, sometimes vulgar but always self-deprecatingly gross, was launched in the sixties on club audiences in northern towns, where the saucy, wilfully slapstick picture-postcard humour began to develop.

Appearances on *Opportunity Knocks* and *Blackpool Night Out* introduced him to television and he starred in a long-running series, *See Les*. He took over from Terry Wogan as the frontman on *Blankety Blank* and the ratings leapt.

Dawson, like many comedians, wanted to be taken seriously. He appeared in a number of stage dramas and wrote a few novels, which received mixed reviews. He was praised for his autobiography *A Clown Too Many*, published in 1985.

He suffered a second heart scare in 1991 and was told to cut his 50-a-day smoking habit, enthusiastic drinking and over-eating. With the birth of his daughter last year, he vowed to take more care of his health.

Dawson's admirers believed he had the potential to succeed as a serious actor and in 1991 he won critical acclaim for his performance in the Argentinian black farce *Nona* on television. He was once

rumoured to have turned down Falstaff for the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Showbusiness performers were last night mourning the down-to-earth Lancastrian, whose chutziness and sincerity stood out in an industry of glitz and pretence. Jonathan James-Moore, head of BBC Radio Light Entertainment, said: "Les Dawson always said his first love was radio and radio certainly loved him. He was a comic genius who will be sorely missed."

Ken Dodd called his death "a great national loss". He said: "I looked up to Les. I rated him as the best British droll comedian we had. He was a creative genius."

"He was a great man and my heart goes out to his wife and family. He was a lovely, warm, generous man. I have known him for over 25 years as a friend and fellow comic. Whenever we appeared together, I never heard him say a wrong word about anyone. He always had a joke on his lips."

Anne Chadleigh, Dawson's agent, said: "He was a friend, a true friend. We represented him for more than 30 years. To say he was a star is a gross understatement."

Obituary, page 17

## Pregnant wife 'was hanged'

A CHEATING husband murdered his wife, who was eight months pregnant, and tried to make it look like suicide, a court was told yesterday.

Eddie Gilfoyle, 31, hanged his wife, Paula, from a beam in their garage two weeks before their first child was due to be born. Two days earlier she had borrowed books on baby care from her library, Liverpool Crown Court was told.

Mr Gilfoyle, a BUPA hospital auxiliary nurse, showed police a suicide note which he said he had found in the kitchen and in which his wife told him not to blame himself. Police found out that he had been seen near his home at a time he claimed to have been at his parents, Rodney Klevan QC, for the prosecution, said.

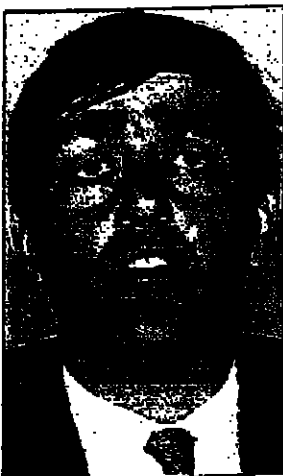
Mr Gilfoyle told detectives that he had found the note when he returned to his home in Upton, Birkenhead, and went straight to his parents in nearby Wallasey without searching the house. He returned later with his parents and was joined by his brother-in-law Paul Caddick, a police sergeant.

Mr Klevan said Paula Gilfoyle had been radiant and happy. "There was no depression, no illness - a woman happily anticipating the birth of her first child."

The trial continues today.

## Queen's wealth shrinks by a third

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON  
IN NEW YORK



Westminster: drops 60 places to 88th in world

THE Queen's wealth has shrunk by a third in the past year to £5.2 billion, according to the latest American survey of the world's richest people. The news comes as she faces a tax bill estimated at between £1 million and £2 million.

The value of the royal coffers reached a peak last year at \$11.7 billion (£7.7 billion). It is now barely above its level of five years ago when she was worth \$7.4 billion. Her status as the richest person domiciled in Britain was eclipsed by the Rausing brothers, two Swedes who run the Tetrapak food packaging and agricultural equipment company, registered in Switzerland.

The A spokesman for *Fortune*, the financial magazine which compiles the annual billionaire's list, said: "Some of the decline in the Queen's fortune came as a result of the

falling pound, but much of it from the fall in art and property values."

The largest recorded fall in fortunes came to the Duke of Westminster, Mayfair landlord and property owner. His fortune shrivelled to \$2.3 billion, 40 per cent less than he was worth in 1987. He suffered the ignominy of a 60-place drop to be ranked only the 88th richest man in the world.

Problems with a property and retailing empire sunk Sir John Moores, the Littlewoods boss. In one year the family nest egg dropped 40 per cent to \$2.7 billion, ranking him 74th.

Fortune world's ten richest people: the Sultan of Brunei, \$37 billion; Walton family (US), 23.5; Mars family (US), 14; Mori brothers (Japan), 13; S I Newhouse (US), 10; King Fahd (Saudi Arabia), 10; John Kluge (US), 8.8; Rausing brothers (UK), 8.5; Queen Elizabeth II, 7.8; Toichi Takemaka (Japan), 7.1.

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## Shaughnessy murder appeals

## Police 'withheld evidence' from Taylor sisters' trial

By RICHARD DUCE

IMPORTANT evidence withheld by police, together with sensationalised press coverage of a murder trial, led to the wrongful conviction of two young sisters, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Counsel for one of the sisters said the trial was not told that a crucial prosecution witness, Dr Michael Unsworth-White, had written to the victim's employer to ask about reward money before he gave evidence. Dr Unsworth-White, who placed Michelle Taylor, 22, and Lisa Taylor, 19, at the murder scene, had first told police that one of the two women was black. Both are white.

Richard Ferguson QC, for Michelle Taylor, told the court that only detective work by junior defence counsel had succeeded in tracking down the new evidence in the last days before the sisters' appeal against conviction for murdering Alison Shaughnessy, 21, a clerk at Barclays Bank, at her home in Bayswater, south London, in June 1991. She was stabbed 54 times.

Mr Ferguson said that the evidence of Dr Unsworth-White was crucial to the prosecution case at the trial in July last year because it placed the sisters leaving Mrs Shaughnessy's flat at the material time, about 5.45pm.

But the trial was not told that, in an interview with a police officer on the day before he made a written statement, Dr Unsworth-White said he believed one of the women was black. He retracted that description in his statement.

Mr Ferguson told Lord Justice McCowan and Mr Justice Douglas Brown and Tuckey that if he was right that there had been a "material irregularity", the judges might feel that would secure the appeal. John Nutting, for the Crown, said he freely conceded that failure to disclose an inconsistent description was "manifestly a material irregularity".

Mr Ferguson also detailed how, after the trial, he had discovered correspondence between Dr Unsworth-White and Barclays Bank about the possibility of reward money being paid to him for the information he provided to police. Mr Nutting said that while the trial jury had not been aware of this, they had been told that the doctor's girlfriend had made an enquiry on his behalf.

Mr Ferguson said the sisters were originally granted leave to appeal because the trial

judge said she was troubled by the "unremitting, extensive, sensational, inaccurate and misleading" media coverage during the trial.

He said that during the case a video was shown on national television dealing with Michelle Taylor's attendance at Alison and John Shaughnessy's wedding, but that film had never been part of the evidence and was not shown to the jury.

A number of national newspapers not only showed stills from the video but froze one of the frames so that what was clearly on the video — a peck on the cheek between Michelle Taylor and Mr Shaughnessy — appeared in the press to be a kiss on the mouth.

He said *The Sun* headlined it "Cheats' kiss" on the front page and referred to Michelle Taylor as Mr Shaughnessy's mistress. The *Daily Mirror* referred to "The murder case mistress at her lover's wedding".

Baroness Mallison QC, for Lisa Taylor, said: "The coverage was certainly, in my experience, unprecedented. It went far beyond the evidence which was in court."

The hearing continues today.



Mother's support: Ann Taylor arriving for yesterday's appeal court hearing

## TV licence inspectors 'tell lies'

By FRANCES GIBB  
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

TELEVISION licence inspectors tell lies, pick on the poor and trick doorstep confessions from interviewees, a report by the Justices' Clerks' Society claims.

The society, the main legal adviser to magistrates, says: "We have no confidence in the present system by which it is sought to enforce payment of the licence fee."

Officers of the TV Licence Records Office must comply with the relevant provisions of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act when investigating offences or interviewing offenders. "Yet doorstep admissions of liability are common and the court is frequently advised by offend-

ers that they were told they would not be prosecuted if they obtained a licence."

In the past ten years the numbers of prosecutions each year has risen from 34,962 to 163,964. The justices' clerks say, however, that the poor have borne an unfair share of this increase. "We sense that prosecutions continue to be concentrated against some of the most vulnerable impoverished sections of the community."

"Since the majority of surveillance appears to be during daytime hours it is often women who are prosecuted when their partners share an equal responsibility." Single parent families seem particularly at risk, the report says.

The society recommends abolishing the present prosecution system and replacing

it with a fixed-penalty ticket system with the opportunity for offenders to avoid going to court.

There is a national network of 500 inspectors employed by Subscription Services Ltd, part of the Post Office. The company is contracted by the BBC to manage television licensing.

The company said it had not seen the report but would want to look into any criticism. Inspectors were paid on a performance-related basis "which relates to volume and quality of information obtained but is not affected by the number of prosecutions".

A spokeswoman said that there were more prosecutions because more homes had a television. The increase did not reflect a change in prosecution policy.

## Rees-Mogg calls for 10pm watershed

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE family viewing watershed pushed back from 9pm to 10pm to protect children from the "long-term damage" that can be inflicted by screen violence, Lord Rees-Mogg, former chairman of the Broadcasting Standards Council, said yesterday.

Giving evidence to the national heritage select committee's enquiry into the future of the BBC, Lord Rees-Mogg said that, as television violence

could reinforce attitudes which were dangerous to society, broadcasters should be subject to greater constraints. He drew a comparison with Germany and France, where the watersheds are at 10pm and 10.30pm respectively.

His comments are unlikely to find favour with the BBC or ITV companies, who operate a 9pm watershed, and still less with the satellite channel BSkyB, where family programming ends at 8pm.

## Rastafarian race case goes to the Lords

By RICHARD FORD  
HOME CORRESPONDENT

A BLACK bus driver who was turned down for a job as a government chauffeur because he refused to have his 4ft dreadlocks cut is to go to the House of Lords for a ruling to establish whether Rastafarians are a recognised religious group.

Trevor Dawkins, 30, has the support of the Commission for Racial Equality in a case whose result could have far-reaching consequences. He claimed the order that he must get his dreadlocks cut was racist and that Rastafarians should be regarded as a religious movement entitled to special treatment.

The government's property services agency refused to hire him even though he offered to compromise by tying back his hair and hiding it under a large hat. He was told later by letter that because drivers worked with ministers and top civil servants, short, tidy hair was essential.

The commission is backing his appeal because it wants the Law Lords to provide a clearer definition of "ethnic group". Under race relations laws no one can prove racial discrimination unless they belong to a recognised ethnic community.

The commission, which has already supported Mr Dawkins in the High Court, is to champion his case further as part of a more "pro-active" approach to race relations by Herman Ouseley, its first black chairman and former chief executive of Lambeth council.

Earlier this year Mr Dawkins, from southeast London, lost in the Court of Appeal when a judge said Rastafarians were not entitled to legal recognition as a separate ethnic group. An industrial tribunal found earlier that he had been deprived of his job on racial grounds but the Employment Appeals Tribunal later overturned the decision.

Lord Justice Neill said in the appeal court that although the Rastafarians had a shared history dating back 60 years, it did not entitle them to be separately classified from other Afro-Caribbeans. Rastafarians regard Haile Selassie, the Ethiopian emperor overthrown in 1974, as God.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Teacher to get £200 for gun threat

The parents of a boy who terrified a teacher with a replica gun were ordered to pay the man £200 compensation by magistrates in Sunderland.

Their son, 16, who admitted affray charges, held the gun at the teacher's head and demanded to see his girlfriend after an argument with her. He was ordered to do 100 hours' community service.

## Appeal refused

Michael Shorey, 36, who drove his girlfriend and her friend around London after murdering them, was refused leave to appeal against his conviction by the Court of Appeal. Shorey, of Holloway, London, was jailed for life.

## Driving ban

James Owen, 28, of Grantham, who crashed a fire engine on an emergency call while more than two times above the drink-driving limit, was banned from driving for three years.

## Blaze victim

Tyler Weeks, 5, died in a fire at his home in Crawley, West Sussex, after being too scared to escape down blazing stairs with his mother and baby sister.

## School assaults

David Birch, 44, a primary school teacher of Tiddington, Warwickshire, was convicted of indecently assaulting six girl pupils. He will be sentenced after reports.

## Traffic set to

Traffic on the A508 at Cosgrove, Northamptonshire, was restricted after workmen discovered a large set containing 10 badgers inches beneath the tarmac.

## Seats recalled

Nearly 11,000 Klippan, Boots and Mothercare baby car seats have been recalled because of concern about a part breaking.

## Pop apology

The singer Sinead O'Connor took a full-page advertisement in *The Irish Times* to answer criticism after she pulled out of a peace concert in Dublin.

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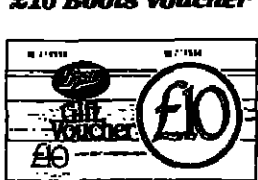
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## Arts grandees swell ranks of opposition to cash cuts

By ALISON ROBERTS, ARTS REPORTER

THE chairman of the Royal Opera House and the artistic director of the Royal Shakespeare Company warn of impending financial crisis in the arts world in letters to *The Times* today. The future of the three companies under the Covent Garden umbrella and that of up to 20 regional theatres is at risk if public funding cuts go ahead, they say.

Sir Angus Stirling, chairman of the ROH, writes: "The survival of our companies, the Royal Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet and Royal Opera, already in the balance, could be at stake if the projected government cuts to the arts were made a reality."

Adrian Noble, artistic director of the RSC, says that the 2 per cent cut in the Arts Council budget, planned for 1994-5, could "entail the loss of council funding to 20 major regional theatres".

For the first time since a cut was mooted in the Autumn Statement, arts chiefs are making a concerted effort to stop proposals that they claim could close many regional arts

organisations and severely restrict national companies.

In an open letter to Peter Brooke, the heritage secretary, published in the arts section of *The Times* yesterday, Lord Palumbo, chairman of the Arts Council, said that the proposed cut would "force a number of organisations to close and many others into programmes of work severely restricted in quality and quantity". Mr. Noble says that foreign arts organisations hold British theatre in the highest esteem. "The thought that we might voluntarily inflict on this national asset such savage damage as Lord Palumbo forecasts is incomprehensible to them."

Sir Geoffrey Cass, chairman of the RSC, is also asking the government to reconsider. He said that the £5 million cut was "derisory in national expenditure terms, but capable of doing almost infinite damage to the arts, quite apart from depressing the whole morale of the arts world".

Lobbying will intensify during the summer. Directors of the national opera companies have sent a private document, setting out their predictions of the disastrous effects of a cut, to politicians and members of the arts world.

Next week Richard Eyre, director of the Royal National Theatre, will lead arts figures in a campaign to protect theatre-in-education schemes. Also next week, a conference organised by the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts is likely to pass a motion backing the Arts Council and calling for greater public funding.

Letters, page 15



Noble: 20 regional theatres may close

### Times investigation

## Milk and rice join list of food frauds

By TONY DAWES

DECEPTIONS involving milk and rice have been uncovered by trading standards officers stepping up investigations into the content and labelling of food products.

Four out of every ten bottles of semi-skimmed milk taken from farm suppliers by officers in West Yorkshire were found to contain far more fat than is permitted. The findings follow a Consumers' Association survey which found that many health food products are less healthy than ordinary ones.

Officers in Kent have found too much added water in milk samples taken in the past

month, while in another survey half the packets of basmati rice, a high-quality product sold at a premium price, were found to be adulterated with cheaper varieties.

The milk and rice frauds add to the findings of *The Times* investigation highlighting doctored and wrongly-labelled food — burgers made from meat slurry, chicken breasts containing soya and crabsticks with only 3 per cent crab.

Keith Hurley, West Yorkshire's director of trading standards, said: "Our results suggest that many farm holders have difficulty in maintaining the fat content of semi-skimmed milk within the statutory limits. This is particularly disturbing, because people buy the milk to reduce their fat intake."

Skimmed milk is made by removing the cream from whole milk and then blending the resulting product with ordinary milk to give the right fat content, which should be between 1.5 and 1.8 per cent.

The samples were among 237 faulty ones taken by West Yorkshire officers in the first quarter of the year, a total which amounted to one fifth of all their food samples.

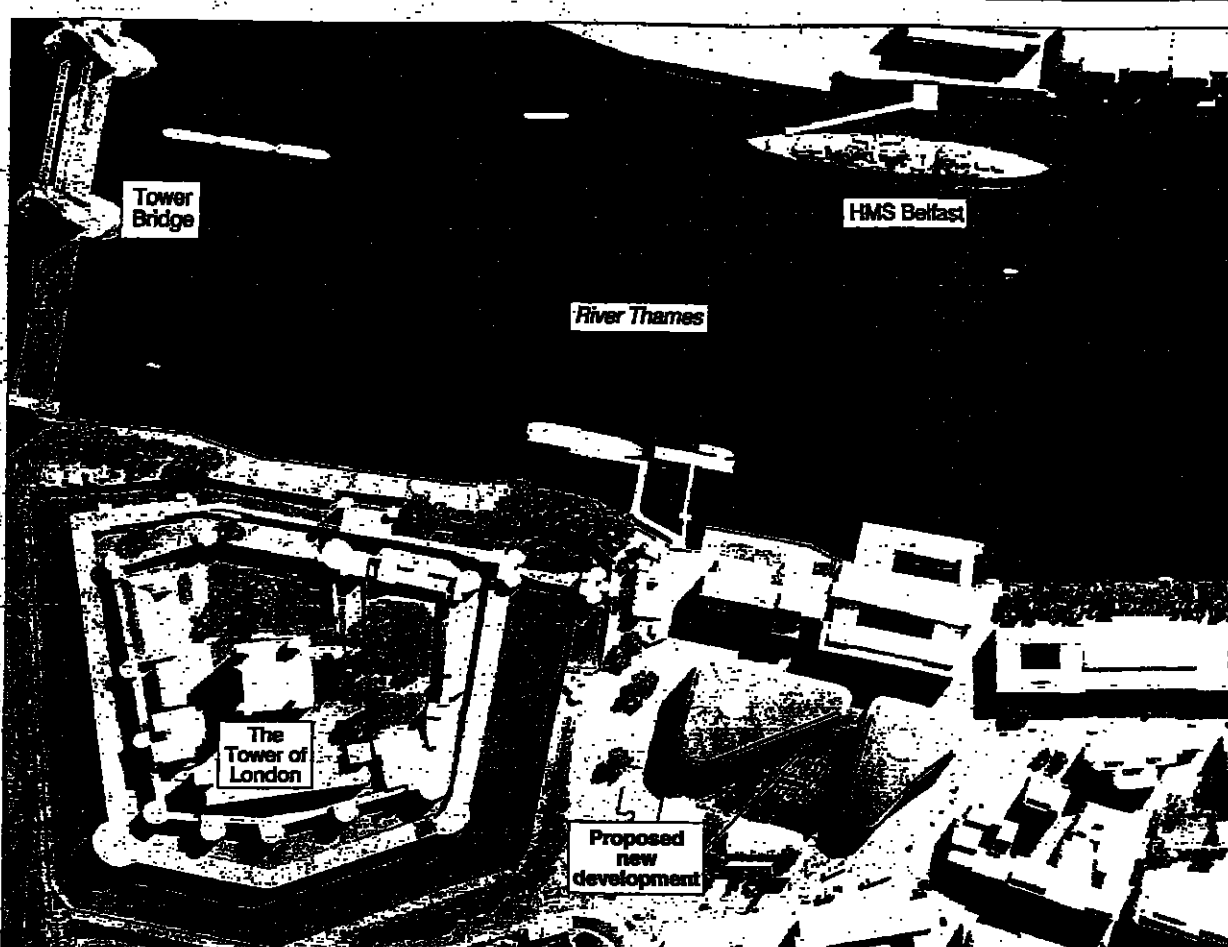
David Dickinson, editor of *Which?* says that earlier this week disclosed that unhealthy foods are readily available in health food shops. "It is vital that the food which people buy is as healthy as they think and of a decent quality. All these problems highlight the need for more comprehensive and accurate labelling."

The problems with adulterated basmati rice are thought to stem from poor harvests in India and Pakistan. The survey by Kent trading standards officers found that supermarkets were as much to blame as small stores.

Mike Farrant, Kent's food specialist, said that no action could be taken because of the lack of any objective testing procedure which would satisfy a court. The government's chief scientist has expressed his concern at the potential for rice adulteration and work is now underway to establish satisfactory tests.

Holland and Barrett, the leading chain of health food shops, was fined £650 this week after pleading guilty to Leeds to five charges under the Food Safety Act of incorrectly labelling dried fruit.

## Foster scheme aims to remove eyesore and restore views of the Tower



Aerial view: the environs of the Tower of London, which could lose the blot of the Bowring office block



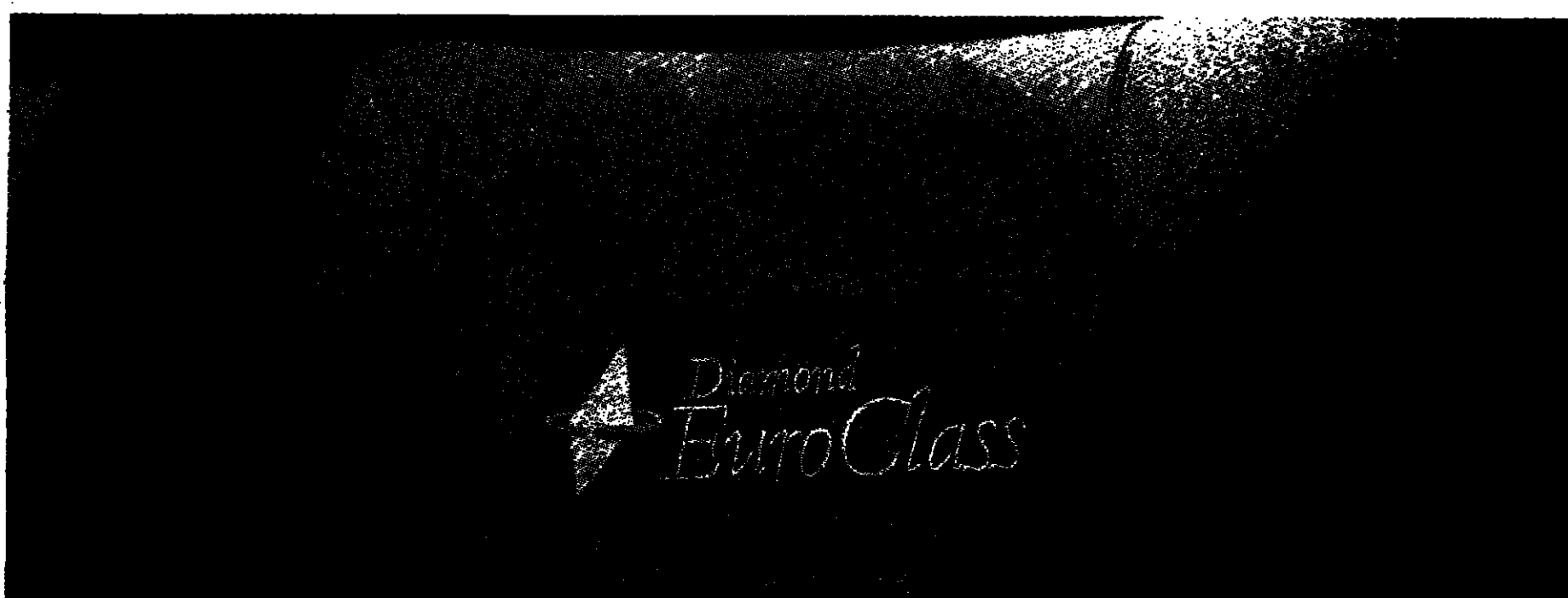
Restored view: designs for a lower building, above, to replace one of London's grimmest eyesores — the 16-storey Bowring office tower which overshadows the Tower of London — will be submitted today by the insurance brokers C.T. Bowring (Marcus Binney writes). They have commissioned Sir Norman Foster to design the building to open up the view of the Norman White Tower from the top of the Monument, which has been blocked for 30 years. Sir Norman's design features a large triangular public plaza, roofed and fronted entirely in clear glass. Rising seven storeys, it will contain fully grown trees. At present there is about 30,000 sq ft of public

open space on the Bowring site but it is virtually unused. The Foster plan will replace this with a conservatory-style open space.

The new steel-frame office building will be clad in stone, probably a honey-coloured granite. The two blocks, both triangular in plan, will have distinctive bull-nosed corners, and the all-glass front wall and roof will use toughened glass to resist bombs.

The scheme has support in principle from the Royal Fine Art Commission and English Heritage. Approval by the City of London Corporation will depend on assurances that the current open space, to be annexed in the plan, will be permanently accessible.

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## Fowler savages old friend to defend prime minister

BY SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

EVEN veteran Tory MPs inured to the cut and thrust of party politics were left gasping yesterday by the venomous falling-out between the two Normans, formerly among the best of political chums since their Cambridge college days.

Norman Lamont could be said to have started the fight with his coded censure of Sir Norman Fowler's influence on John Major. But the sheer contempt with which the party chairman dismissed the former Chancellor's speech as "nasty, dull, ludicrous and silly" shook many mutual friends among what has become known as the Tory's party's "Cambridge mafia".

For good measure, the normally relaxed and charming Sir Norman spar back: "I am not going to take any criticism from Norman Lamont. The party has stood by him. What he has not done is remotely stand by the prime minister." His old colleague was "thrashing around to find villains for his downfall".

Although the two men were never exactly in and out of

each other's houses, all appeared well until less than a year ago. But Mr Lamont's remarks suggest that his suspicions that Sir Norman was lobbying the prime minister for the former Chancellor's removal had been festering for some months.

There are other points of difference between them. Mr Lamont managed Mr Major's leadership campaign while Sir Norman, who at the time was on the back benches, voted for Michael Heseltine.

But it is to Sir Norman that the prime minister has increasingly turned for advice since appointing him party chairman in May last year. Indeed, it was Sir Norman who gave Mr Major his first political post at the department of social security in the 1980s, and the two have remained close. Since the election and Sir Norman's replacing of Chris Patten as party chairman, the party's fortunes have declined, and yet Sir Norman is rarely seen without a smile on his face.

Sir Norman has been influential in the decisions on the

departure of David Mellor, damage limitation after Black Wednesday and tactics on the Maastricht bill. He feeds through to the prime minister the mood of the grassroots Tories. Mr Lamont's cracks about "short-termism" suggest he believes the party chairman advised the prime minister on the timing of interest rate cuts, the decision to disperse with the services of the Chancellor and, possibly, on the choice of successor.

Sir Norman, 55, a former home affairs correspondent of *The Times*, has made no bones about his ambition to be home secretary. Mr Lamont may suspect that the party chairman may have urged Mr Major not to offer him that post in place of the Treasury.

Much is made of the camaraderie in the Cambridge mafia of bright young Conservatives in the early 1960s. Intimates recall that Kenneth Clarke was matey with Norman Fowler in college, while Norman Lamont was close to the new home secretary and chose Michael Howard to be his best man.

Mr Major has been heard to comment that during Sir Norman's long service in a series of tricky jobs in Margaret Thatcher's cabinets, he did not detonate any political timebombs. Between 1979 and 1990 he was successively secretary of state for transport, social services employment.

Although Mrs Thatcher did not regard him as "one of us" because of his pragmatic rather than ideological approach, she valued him as a safe pair of hands. He admits he has a far closer relationship with John Major than he ever did with Mrs Thatcher.

The first sign that the past year's turmoil are getting to him came with his sharp retort to criticism of John Major from his old editor, Lord Rees-Mogg. "I would 100 times rather work for John Major than William Rees-Mogg," he said.

In a radio interview last month he commented: "He [Mr Major] is a man to go to war with." Today his words look prophetic.

Diary, page 14



Biting back: Sir Norman Fowler accused Mr Lamont of "thrashing around to find villains for his downfall"

## Loyal MPs put a bruised Major 'on probation'

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

John Major's attempt yesterday to imitate the insouciance of Harold Macmillan when brushing aside Peter Thorneycroft's resignation as Chancellor in 1958 as "a little local difficulty" did not quite work. Downing Street pretended it was "business as usual". There was a predictable rallying round by Tory MPs. The executive of the 1922 committee expressed "100 per cent support" — not exactly a bankable assurance.

We are not back to November 1990. The situation is under control, in the short-term. But the comments by MPs were partly to reassure themselves. In the latest fashionable sound bite, Mr Major is on "probation".

There remains the problem of Norman Lamont. His resignation statement can be dismissed as a "one-day" wonder and as self-serving. But that will not do. The damage has been done: the prime minister's former campaign manager and close colleague has expressed wider doubts about Mr Major's style of decision-making. While he is no Michael Heseltine, Mr Lamont is still able to wound.

Wednesday's statement — delivered despite the advice of many close colleagues — seems to have released pent-up frustrations following his sacking two weeks ago. It was cathartic.

The former Chancellor has no current intention of saying more in the immediate future. But he has warned Downing Street, through intermediaries, that they should leave him alone. And that was before the angry outburst from Sir Norman Fowler on the breakfast airwaves about "a nasty and chud" statement by Mr Lamont. Mr Heseltine was wiser to talk about "the high passion of politics", adding that "if you sack your Chancellor, you know there will be a price to pay".

Mr Lamont still has the potential to explode. He knows things about the way the Major government works, in particular the handling of the forced withdrawal from

the exchange-rate mechanism last September, which could be damaging.

Even if, or probably when, the immediate furore over Mr Lamont's statement dies down, Mr Major still has a lengthy struggle to re-establish his political authority. The coming months are likely to offer little respite. The polls are likely to remain bad. The Christchurch by-election is already being written off as a Tory loss. The Maastricht saga is not yet over. The long run-up to the November Budget will produce regular leaks about cuts in the welfare state and possible tax increases. And the party conference in October could easily be as bitter and divisive as last autumn's. By contrast, Mr Major can look for growing evidence of a strengthening economic recovery. And he can hope that John Smith's arguments with the unions will distract attention and unite the Tories.

Mr Major will also hope to draw attention to what the government has achieved in the 14 months since the general election, its busy legislative programme (implementing nearly a third of its manifesto commitments in this session) and actions to improve public services across the board. He will emphasise these long-term aims, including some highlights of the coming Queen's Speech, in his speech later today to the Welsh Tory conference.

There are no easy answers, no panaceas in changing Downing Street staff or altering presentation. There is no shortage of ideas or policies. Mr Major has rather to show that his government is competent and has a clear strategy. Tory MPs are giving him a chance to do that, but the mood is fragile and the Tories' tendency to panic could easily recur.

PETER RIDDELL

## Pressing home a point

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

NORMAN Lamont's valedictory speech to the Commons gave the headline writers their best opportunity in months. "One Foot in the Grave", trumpeted *The Sun*, complete with four images of the prime minister fading successively to a sickly grey.

"Mr Whiplash" the *Daily Mail* rejoined, over a cartoon of Mr Lamont in suspenders and conical bra, wielding a whip over a cowering John Major. Broadsheet and tabloid

papers were drawn into a frenzied stabbing attack. "Can Major survive Lamont's knife?" the *Daily Express* asked. "Now Lamont knives Major", *Today* said. The *Daily Mirror* carried a series of daggers dripping blood. The *Independent's* front-page cartoon showed the prime minister with a knife labelled "Lamont" in his back. A drawing in *The Times* depicted Mr Major and Mr Lamont sticking daggers into each other.

## The week in Parliament

Commons

Today: Debate on manufacturing.  
Monday: Leasehold reform bill, Lords amendments. Representation of the people bill, all stages.  
Tuesday: Trade union reform and employment rights bill, Lords amendments.  
Wednesday: Trade union reform and employment rights bill, Lords amendments.

Thursday: Defence estimates debate.

Friday: Debate on science, engineering and technology strategy. Lords.  
Monday: Education bill, report: local government (amendment) bill, second reading.  
Tuesday: Railways bill, second reading.  
Wednesday: Countryside debate.  
Thursday: Lottery bill, committee.

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# Grassroots Tories condemn Lamont's 'disloyalty' to party

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND JONATHAN PEARSON

NORMAN Lamont came under ferocious fire from grassroots Tories yesterday as they condemned his disloyalty to the party and to John Major. However, the prime minister was also warned forcefully to toughen his own leadership style to prevent further damaging attacks from colleagues and potential threats to his premiership.

Mr Lamont's indictment drew stinging reaction from Conservative party activists who accused the former Chancellor of placing himself before the party. But Wednesday's Commons skirmish left many constituency chairmen concluding that the prime minister had suffered a second "bloody nose" within a month rather than a mortal wound.

None expected Mr Major to be challenged for the party leadership this year, and most favoured him as the leader at the next election.

Jacqueline Dicks, from Michael, Anthony's Devizes constituency, said: "There is only one way forward. We have got to be behind the prime minister during a very difficult time. We elected him and we have got to rally round."

Mr Lamont's attack has raised fears that Mr Major is vulnerable to further backbench dissent unless he steadies party nerves and takes a more positive approach. One chairman said: "It is time he stopped trying to be nice to his friends and acted like a leader. Perhaps Kenneth Clarke will

give him more spine." Mr Lamont's comments were seen yesterday as "being born of bitterness rather than concern for the party." He has thought about himself first throughout the time that the country has been suffering. I doubt that he is thinking about others now."

Henry Moore, president of the Westminster constituency of Tory loyalist Peter Temple-Morris, warned the prime minister: "Mr Lamont tried hard. But it is not a game of trying. It is a game of winning. John Major must plough on and win."

Wilson Henry, chairman of Crosby, constituency association, said that he planned to meet his MP, Sir Malcolm Thornton, to discuss the party's Westminster troubles. Party officers were "very concerned" and needed to be "better armed to deal with the fact that is lying around".

While the timing of Mr Lamont's resignation speech had been "not helpful", Mr Henry said he had been impressed by the former Chancellor's actions and was disappointed to see him go.

Mr Lamont was condemned for "behaving like a spoilt child" by Lily Henderson, chairman of the Blackpool, executive, incorporating the seats of Nicholas Hawkins and Harold Ellenton. "It was totally disgraceful and made me ashamed that we were in the same party."

Few activists agreed with Mr Lamont's assertion that government policy had been led by pollsters, party business managers and short-term political expediency. Mike Moradian, chairman of the Brent North constituency of Sir Rhodes Boyson, voiced some sympathy for the deposed Chancellor who had "done so much for the economy" but had acted "out of soreness". He predicted that the party would react by rallying around the leader.

## Tories put faith in Commons veteran

By SUELLA GUNN  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NORMAN Lamont's demolition job on John Major heightens the significance of the Christchurch by-election.

Before Wednesday the loss of the ultra-safe Tory seat to the Liberal Democrats could have been dismissed by the leadership as another "bloody nose", but not unexpected. The result now looks likely to be interpreted as a verdict on the prime minister himself.

Sir Norman Fowler, the Conservative party chairman, and his aides are agonising over the merits of a July or September campaign. If held on July 15, the by-election would be out of the way before the summer recess. They may gamble on the prospect of calmer waters by the autumn. But if they then lose it, Tory morale would be further dented in the run-up to the party's annual conference.

The late Robert Adley left a majority of 23,015 in the 18th safest Tory seat in the country, Diana Maddock, the newly selected Liberal Democrat candidate, needs a 20 per cent swing to snatch Christchurch. As there was a 28.4 per cent swing away from the Conservatives in Newbury, she is likely to start favourite.

Rob Hayward, the newly selected Conservative candidate, is one of the party's foremost psephologists, those benighted poll-watchers castigated by Norman Lamont on Wednesday for their malign influence on the prime minister. Yet he is being careful not to use his predictive skills, merely declaring his determination to see off the Liberal Democrat challenge. "I do not see the government's majority in the Commons would be cut to zero."

The former MP, who lost his marginal seat of Kingston in Bristol last year, said he relished the challenge.



Squaring up: Rob Hayward, who will fight Christchurch for the Tories

engage. "What I do, and always have done, is work 101 per cent towards doing the best I can in whatever the circumstances."

Mr Hayward, 44, is already assured of a place in the history books for his role in Margaret Thatcher's downfall. Although he was not personally hostile to the former prime minister, he was one of the first to believe she had become a liability to the party. He correctly predicted the result of the first leadership ballot and the by-election list of 37 Tory MPs prepared to defect to Michael Heseltine's camp helped to con-

vince senior party figures that Mrs Thatcher could not win the second ballot.

Last year he was awarded an OBE for leading a campaign on behalf of the Gulf war hostages. He was a marathon runner and top-class rugby player before the onset of multiple sclerosis.

Since he lost his seat Mr Hayward, who is divorced, has been tracking the impact of the Boundary Commission changes on the party's prospects. He recently represented Cambridge-shire MPs, including John Major, at an enquiry into the reshaping of their seats.

When in the Commons from 1983 to 1992, he was much sought after for his number-crunching skills, always ready to give the odds on any electoral contest. While he has doubtless calculated his chances of winning Christchurch, he shows no signs of divulging them.

The Tories have not held a seat in a by-election since 1989, when William Hague was elected MP for Richmond, Yorkshire.

□ 1992 general election results: R. J. Adley (C) 36,627; Rev D. Bussey (LD) 13,612; A. Lloyd (Lab) 6,997; J. Barratt (NLP) 243; A. Wareham (CRA) 175. Con majority 23,015.

## Task force seeks to give teeth to charters

By MICHAEL DYNES  
WHITENALL CORRESPONDENT

LADY Wilcox, the National Consumer Council chairman, yesterday gave a tiny but much needed boost to John Major's big idea by launching the citizen's charter complaints task force.

The new task force has been charged with the somewhat pedestrian role of overhauling public service complaints procedures in an effort to give teeth to the lacklustre citizen's charter initiative. Lady Wilcox will receive a £5,000 fee for leading a six-member investigative team which will tour the country examining complaints procedures in the public services and private utilities during the next two years.

The task force intends to publish a set of "best practice" principles for complaints procedures, which William Waldegrave, the public service minister, hopes will enable service providers and consumers to help to bring about a wholesale improvement in public services.

Lady Wilcox said that experience "has shown me that people welcome a simple guide through the maze of bureaucracy when they need to complain". People also needed to know that if they did complain something would happen. "They need the confidence that it is worth complaining," she said.

Dismissing claims that the citizen's charter was a waste of time while the government was fighting for its life, David Davis, the new citizen's charter minister, said that the initiative was only two years old and "was already beginning to bite across the whole range of public services". "Complaints should be seen as a valuable management tool in identifying weak areas in the service provided and improving them," he said.

Despite the publication of some 31 citizen's charters, ranging from British Rail's passenger's charter to the NHS patient's charter, public enthusiasm for Mr Major's big idea has not yet been overwhelming.

## Kingston voters turn their backs on MP

By JAMES LANDALE

THERE was little grassroots support for Norman Lamont among Tory voters in his Kingston upon Thames constituency yesterday. While party officials strenuously and loyally defended their MP, most ordinary party members had little doubt that the former Chancellor had gone a sour grape too far in his resignation speech on Wednesday.

Local Tories were reacting to a double blow the day after the Boundary Commission announced that Mr Lamont's Kingston constituency is to be abolished before the next election because of recent population movements. Few said they would be disappointed to see Mr Lamont disappear along with the seat.

Ron Gill, chairman of the Kingston and Malden Conservative Club, defended Mr Lamont for saying things which had to be said and was surprised at Sir Norman

Fowler's reaction. "The speech was not disloyal to the party," he said. "Mr Lamont was putting forward proposals to save the party. Sir Norman should have recognised it as such."

The Conservative Club in Kingston was quiet yesterday as the lady members made their annual trip to Laycock Abbey. However, Paul Chandaman, 71, a party member for 40 years, said that Mr Lamont's speech was damaging to Mr Major and the party. "He has been made a bit of a scapegoat for the policies of the prime minister, but I do not think he should have gone that far," he said.

If the defence of Mr Lamont was lukewarm, attitudes towards the prime minister were distinctly chilly. Even those who felt that Mr Lamont had gone too far talked of the prime minister "betraying" his erstwhile Chancellor.

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# Hospital staff 'lack skills' to revive heart-attack patients

By JEREMY LAURANCE  
HEALTH SERVICES  
CORRESPONDENT

PATIENTS who suffer cardiac arrest in hospital have only a slim chance of receiving skilled resuscitation and may be mistakenly left to die because standards of training and communication are so poor.

Three reports in the *British Medical Journal* highlight the low quality of medical staff skills in dealing with patients who collapse. An editorial comment says that asking if there is a doctor in the house when someone collapses may be futile. "Many doctors have not been taught the necessary skills and, even when they have, the skills decay rapidly if not used regularly," the journal says.

The reports show that when resuscitation is performed it is done badly: nurses have to make instant decisions at the bedside over whether to start resuscitation. The journal says that, to save lives, all medical staff need regular refresher courses.

A study at one hospital, of doctors who were about to sit a professional examination and would be expected to lead cardiac arrest teams, found that 29 out of 30 made fundamental mistakes in resuscitating patients. Tested on a dummy, they placed their hands in the wrong position on the chest, failed to check the

Even experienced doctors may have to relearn lifesaving skills if more patients are to survive collapse in hospital

pulse or used drugs such as adrenaline incorrectly.

Despite their failings, 19 of the 30 went on to pass the examination giving them membership of the Royal College of Physicians. The study, conducted at hospitals in Reading, Berkshire, says the doctors were at a level of seniority "where they might be assumed to be the most skilled at resuscitation".

A second, more disturbing, study found that nurses at two hospitals in London did not know which patients were to be left to die if they collapsed because instructions were not clearly marked in their notes. They wrongly identified nearly one patient in five, who should have been revived if they suffered an arrest, as "not for resuscitation". The study says that such mistakes could put the nurses at risk of legal action.

The British Medical Association and the Royal College of Nursing say that patients near to death are being resuscitated when they would prefer not to be. Resuscitation can be traumatic, involving an assault on the patient with tubes, drip lines, electric shocks and pounding of the chest which can distress relatives and

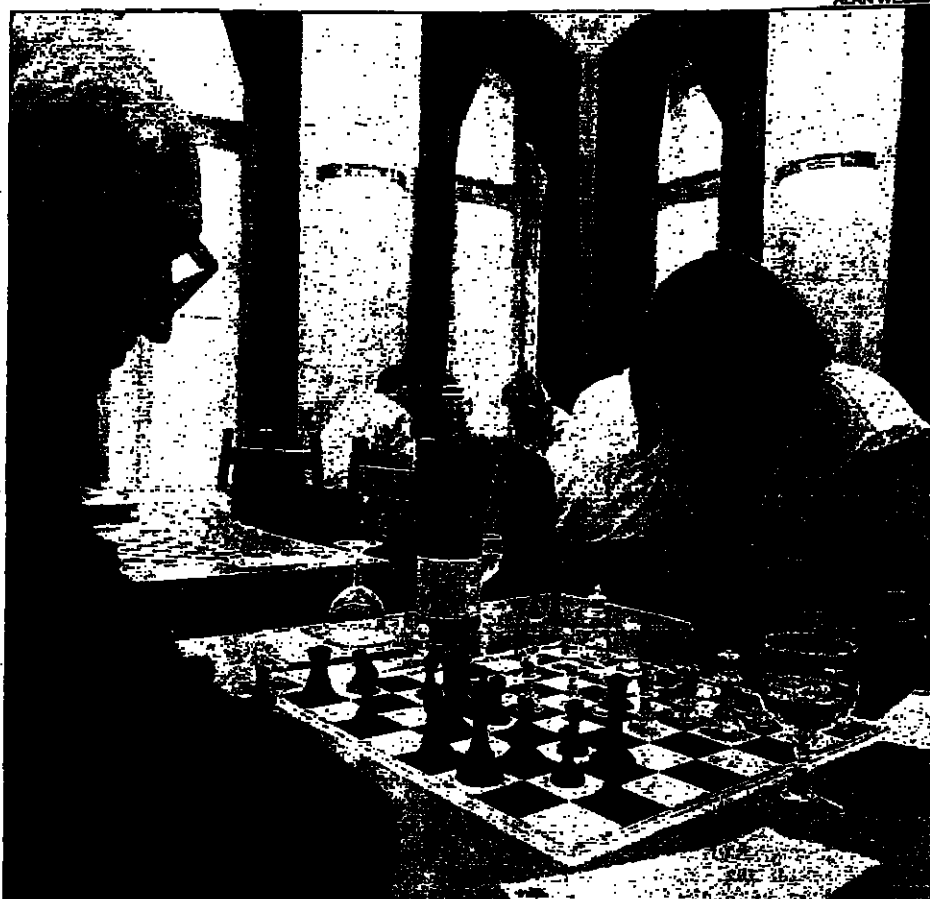
alarm other patients. Therefore, it is common practice, with the agreement of the consultant and relatives, to spare patients with terminal illnesses the indignity of futile attempts at resuscitation. Only one in ten patients who have cardiac arrests in hospital survive to be discharged.

The study's authors say there must be better communication between doctors and nurses. "Doctors need to communicate and document their views about resuscitation more clearly and more often."

A third study, which showed that nurses given basic training in resuscitation lost their skills within months, urges six-monthly refresher courses. It was conducted among 140 nurses in Holland.

A study last year showed that consultants are no better at resuscitation. Of 24 tested at Bedford General Hospital, none was judged adequate in giving the kiss of life or compressing the chest, and 42 per cent performed so poorly that they scored zero.

Evidence shows that collapsed patients who receive defibrillation (electric shock treatment to restart the heart) within 90 seconds have the best chance of survival.



Eyes down: Angela Eagle considers her next move against Lord Jay, who lost

## MPs put peers in their place

By IAN MURRAY

THE Commons has recovered the Parliament chess trophy from the Lords in the fifth annual challenge match between the two houses.

The win puts the Commons 4-1 up in the series, which was started after Garry Kasparov, the world champion, reawakened parliamentary interest in the game by playing 30 members simultaneously in 1989.

To ensure that players

could reach the chamber in case of a division during Wednesday evening's match, which was sponsored by the Brain Trust and *The Spectator*, the venue was shifted for the first time from The Athenaeum Club to the new extension of Parliament.

The Commons emerged victorious by seven points to four, while overall it was a more successful evening for Labour, the Liberal Democrats and Plaid Cymru than

Griffiths (Lab, Edinburgh S), who lists hill-walking and rock-climbing as recreations, won both his games. Andrew Bowden (C, Brighton Kemp-town) who gives chess as one of his pastimes, lost both. Dafydd Wigley (PC, Caernarfon) was another notable winner while Angela Eagle (Lab, Wallasey), a former British girls' champion who claimed she had not so much as touched a pawn for the past 14 years, won one game and drew another.

Lord Killearn was the most successful member of the team from another place. The Liberal Democrat peer drew with Ms Eagle and beat the Commons captain, Michael Stern (C, Bristol NW), who nevertheless managed to win his other game against a librarian co-opted onto the Lords team to make up numbers. The Commons gained another half-point in a game drawn by Gwilym Jones (C, Cardiff N), who was too busy being Under Secretary of State for Wales to play a second game.

Lord Killearn was the reluctant leader of the Lords team. "We are really too democratic in the Lords to have a captain," the Conservative peer said later. "I was only called captain because they happened to hand me the cup last year." He persuaded Lord Jay, the Labour doyen of the team, to take the first board and watched him lose both his contests. Lord Kilbracken, whose stated interests include gambling and bird-watching, but not chess, also lost his.

Mr Stern, who is the driving force behind the revival of interest in the game in Parliament, is now planning further matches for joint teams later in the year.

## THE TIMES WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

By RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

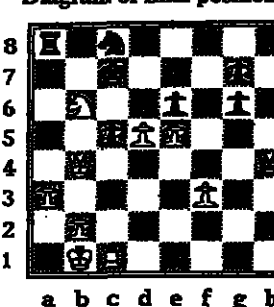
A FURTHER excellent attacking win by Shirov from his tournament victory at Munich.

White: Alexei Shirov  
Black: Eric Lobron  
Munich 1993

### Caro-Kann Defence

1	e4	c5
2	d4	c5
3	e5	Bf5
4	f4	h5
5	g4	g6
6	Nc3	dxc4
7	Bxc4	Nc7
8	Bg5	Ba7
9	Qc2	Nb6
10	Bb3	a5
11	a3	a4
12	Ba2	Bg5
13	h4g5	Ne7
14	Nge2	Ned5
15	Ng3	Bg6
16	Nge4	Nc8
17	g4	Nc3
18	Nc3	Kd7
19	O-O	Kc7
20	Bb1	Ne7
21	Bg6	h5g6
22	Qc2	Qh8
23	Rd8	Qd8
24	Nd4	Nd5
25	Nc5	Qe8
26	Qe2	b6
27	Ne4	C7
28	Qg4	Qe5
29	Qc2	Rf8
30	Nd8	Qg5+
31	Kb1	Qx5
32	Qc2	Ra8
33	Rc1	Ne7
34	Qb3	Qg4
35	R	Qh8
36	Qd4	Qh4
37	Nc4	Nc8
38	d5	c5
39	Nd6	Black resigns

### Diagram of final position



### Bar-room boards

After the Fischer-Spassky match in 1972, chess became very popular in many public houses. The King's Head pub in Bayswater, London, is today famous as a chess resort. I want to hear more from readers about chess cafés and pubs across the country. Are there any pub leagues? Let us find out. Write to me at Championship Chess, 1 Pennington St, London E1

### World Championship Update

For debaters to The Times World Chess Championship match between Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short ring 071 240 1941 Monday to Friday 9am-5.30pm. For prestigious corporate hospitality packages at the Savoy and Simpsons call Cavendish Hospitality on 081 567 3590.

Winning Move, Page 44

## British men still take risk of Aids

FROM NIGEL HAWKES IN BERLIN

BRITISH men are still addicted to risky sexual practices, despite the danger of catching Aids, according to surveys of both heterosexual and gay men in Britain, reported at the International Aids conference.

A Manchester study, funded by the Department of Health, found that of men who pick up prostitutes, only about half use a condom. Almost two-thirds of these men live with regular partners, either a wife or a girl friend, but a third admit to other liaisons, including nearly 10 per cent who are bisexual.

The survey was carried out by the department of nursing at Manchester University, and the department of computation at Manchester Medical School. Men stopped and cautioned by police in Manchester red-light areas were given questionnaires to

fill in; surprisingly, some did. The group included a GP, two teachers, a surveyor and a nurse. Sixteen per cent described their occupation as managerial.

The majority — 67 per cent — picked up prostitutes on the street, with 22 per cent favouring saunas. Those who preferred the street said other forms of contact lacked the same "thrill", though those looking for masochistic services used contact magazines.

Another, much larger, survey of 4,127 adult Aids cases diagnosed in England and Wales between January 1989 and the end of 1992 showed that half were unaware that they were HIV-positive until nine months before they developed full-blown Aids. Among heterosexuals, awareness was especially low, with more than three-quarters unaware that they had HIV.

## Methodists accused of sexism

By RUTH GLEDHILL  
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

SEXISM, ignorance and prejudice remain rife in the Methodist Church, 20 years after women ministers were first ordained, according to a report published this week.

At one theological college, male students refuse communion from a woman minister. Another minister was told by one of her congregation that, as a woman, she would have to prove herself.

The report will be debated at the church's conference in Derby this month. Women ministers have requested a forum to tackle the problem.

The report cites a circuit steward who said to a middle-aged woman, "if you were younger, prettier or had younger children, we wouldn't have had you," and a couple who did not want to be married by a woman.

## Supermarkets cut cost of meat

SUPERMARKETS have cut the price of meat across the board this week. Tesco is offering a 12oz pack of venison at £4.99, a saving of 50p. Waitrose's boneless lamb roast is down 80p per lb.

New Zealand apples are the best fruit this week according to the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Information Bureau. Gala and Royal Gala are 50p to 55p per lb. Strawberries are good value, with Spanish 60p to 65p per 8oz. English icebergs are now in season at 55p to 65p each. The new potato season is fully underway; prices range from 12p to 20p per lb.

Among other best buys are:   
Sainsbury: fresh whole chicken 64p per lb; English farmhouse cheddar, £2.15 per lb; white seedless grapes, £1.49 per lb.   
Sainsbury: new season lamb shoulder, £1.49 per lb; closed cup mushrooms 54p for 1lb; fresh pork bone in leg, 99p per lb.

Gateway and Somerfield: Cherry Valley Grade A fresh ducking portions, £2.99 per lb; Young's breaded cod portions £1.39 for 284g; Oakleaf pre-sliced smoked rainbow trout, £2.49 for 100g.   
Asda: fresh rolled lamb shoulder, £1.98 per lb; fresh baked chicken, 89p per lb; yellow melons, 89p each.   
Tesco: fresh pork boneless shoulder steaks, £1.79 per lb; whole mackerel, 95p per lb; smoked cod fillet, £2.75 per lb.   
Waitrose: German sausage, £1.59 per lb; huss, £1.99 per lb; new season Canadian lobster, £5.95 each.   
Harris: rainbow trout, £1.65 per lb; sea bass £8.75 per lb; jumbo asparagus, £1.60 per bunch; chocolate-covered fresh strawberries, 60p each.

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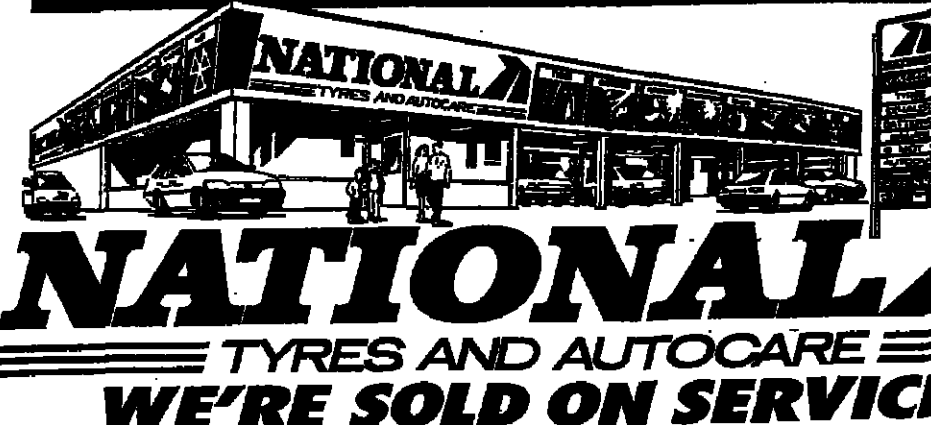
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# Gunships fly in to reinforce UN credibility in Somalia

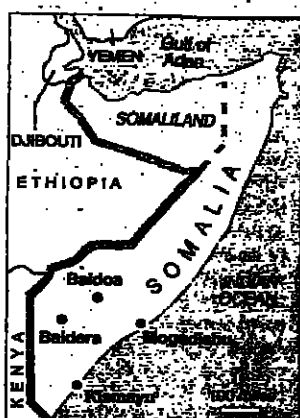
By MARTIN FLETCHER  
IN WASHINGTON  
AND SAM KILBY  
AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

**American gunships are heading for Somalia to hunt the killers of 23 Pakistani peacekeepers. As the country's instability worsens, the UN risks more humiliations**

THE first of four US AC130 gunships was due to arrive in Somalia yesterday, and Washington officials have little doubt that they will soon be used to punish Muhammad Farrah Aidid, the Mogadishu warlord whose forces ambushed and killed 23 Pakistani members of the UN peacekeeping force on Saturday. Three Americans were also wounded.

The administration's view is that a UN failure to retaliate would destroy any hope of restoring political order to the country. It would also render other UN peacekeeping operations around the world far more vulnerable to attack. "There's no underestimating the importance of this operation," said one official.

The AC130 Spectre gunships, used in both the 1989 invasion of Panama and Operation Desert Storm, are big four-engine transport planes fitted with radar, computers, searchlights and a battery of heavy guns, including cannon and howitzers. They could be used to destroy arms



caches or provide cover for ground troops. A State Department spokesman noted pointedly on Wednesday that under existing UN Security Council resolutions the UN forces are authorised to "take all necessary measures" to enforce UN mandates, including the confiscation of weapons. The

State Department has also advised American aid workers to move to "safer areas" and UN diplomats in Mogadishu have been moving into the US embassy compound.

Although General Aidid will be the target of the first punitive UN military operation since the Congo (Zaire) in 1961, action against one warlord among many in Somalia could backfire. Apart from the difficulties of attacking his highly mobile men and arms dumps, which by now will have been moved into the bush, there remains the danger that if General Aidid's military might is destroyed he would inevitably be replaced by another bandit.

"If the UN is going to go after Aidid, they must also go after all the other warlords. If they attack him alone it will look as if the UN is siding with his enemies, and then the UN will become just another clan in the civil war,"

said a senior aid worker who was evacuated from Mogadishu yesterday.

UN officials have asked most aid agencies to leave the Somali capital ahead of what some have styled a "Baghdad bombing" mission expected next week. Ground forces are expected to be reinforced with heavy armour, including tanks, to be pitched against the lightly armed forces of General Aidid.

In anticipation of the attack, the temporary French ambassador to Mogadishu was recalled to Paris yesterday while the majority of aid workers have already been evacuated to the Kenyan capital, Nairobi. Yesterday UN officials admitted that they did not know the whereabouts of General Aidid, but said it was unlikely that he had fled the country.

Some agencies, including Save the Children Fund (UK), have cautioned against military action against General Aidid. Yesterday the agency said that an assault on him would hamper aid work in the country and mitigate against a political solution in Somalia where last year 350,000 people died of starvation as a result of the civil war.



Justice patrol: Somalis watch cautiously as Pakistani soldiers of the United Nations peacekeeping force search the streets of Mogadishu for the snipers who ambushed and killed their colleagues at the weekend

## President placates Senate only to dismay the House

By MARTIN FLETCHER

WHITE House and Senate negotiators continued to haggle over President Clinton's \$500 billion (£330 billion) economic plan yesterday, but the more concessions Mr Clinton made to win over dissident Democrats in the Senate the more support he lost in the House of Representatives.

House Democrats of all political shades attacked him for jettisoning the \$72 billion across-the-board energy tax that he had begged them to support just two weeks ago. Liberals were upset by the prospect of still deeper cuts in social and welfare spending. The 39-member Black Congressional Caucus, already angered by Mr Clinton's abandonment of Lani Guinier last week, refused to meet him at the White House last night.

The outcome of the Senate negotiations was unclear, but it seemed likely that the across-the-board energy tax would be replaced by some form of tax on transportation fuels — and possibly electricity — that would win over oil-state Senators. That would generate \$40-50 billion over five years, with the remaining \$20-30 billion coming from additional cuts in Medicare and other "entitlement" programmes.

If a compromise can be reached that wins Senate approval, House and Senate negotiators will meet to "reconcile" the different versions approved by the two cham-

bers, but that could prove extremely difficult. The House and Senate were like "two freight trains speeding towards a head-on collision" with the president's economic plan tied to the tracks between them, said one Democratic House aide.

The economic plan passed through the House by just 219 votes to 213, and that was after ferocious White House arm-twisting and a personal pledge by Mr Clinton that if Democrats went "out on a limb" for him by supporting unpopular tax increases, he would not drop them in the Senate. Many said they were left betrayed.

The black Caucus doubled its strength in last November's congressional elections, and now represents Mr Clinton's margin of victory in the House. Kweisi Mfume, its chairman, said it had rejected last night's White House meeting because it needed more time for a "very in-depth re-evaluation and reassessment of our relationship with this administration".

Other black organisations are equally disenchanted with Mr Clinton. The National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People has refused to help find a replacement for Ms Guinier, and Hillary Clinton received a lukewarm reception when she addressed a black dinner in Washington on Wednesday.

## Hillary Clinton rejects Lady Macbeth image

By MARTIN FLETCHER

HILLARY Clinton, America's unorthodox First Lady, was quick to deny that she is a latter-day Lady Macbeth when she made a rare television appearance last night.

Asked about comparisons between her and Shakespeare's ruthlessly ambitious wife of a weaker husband, she retorted that the problem was that it was not true. She specifically rejected suggestions that she was the driving force behind many of Presi-

quently speaks on his behalf. Asked why her active involvement in her husband's administration provoked so much controversy, she said it was a reflection of the national debate over the role of modern women.

"People are struggling to define what it means to be a woman, a mother, a wife," she said. "Because my husband is the first of our generation to be elected president, it's the first time that a lot of these very private discussions have been played out at such a very high and visible point in our public life."

Mrs Clinton admitted that her husband's recent \$200 (£133) haircut and the White House travel office fiasco were mistakes he would learn from. She said, however, that much of the criticism of the president stemmed from his willingness to confront "hard things", such as the federal deficit, which had been too long ignored.

She said she did not mind jokes about herself unless they were crude or involved her daughter Chelsea, 13. She wanted the teenager to have "as normal a life as she can, to be the person that God meant her to be". Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, the former First Lady, had advised her to try as hard as she could to let Chelsea grow up as though her father were not president.

Mrs Clinton also disclosed that Chelsea would be having her ears pierced this summer. "I promised her [she could] when she was five, and I thought 13 was a hundred years from then."



Clinton: does not mind jokes made about her

dent Clinton's nominations for government office, most recently that of Lani Guinier, the controversial black law professor.

"That's such nonsense," she said. "I pick up the paper and read that I'm backing somebody that I've never met. don't have an interest in, don't even know was looking for a job. That is just not true."

Mrs Clinton has led the president's task force on health-care reform and fire-

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# Pretenders to UN throne cause rift among old powers

BRITAIN issued a terse comment on America's call for Germany and Japan to be made permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, saying only that its main concern is "to maintain the effectiveness of the security council, which is now working with an unprecedented degree of consensus". (Michael Binyon writes).

This laconic observation hides considerable concern in London that any reform of the UN Charter would open the door to bids by several other big countries, such as Brazil and India, for permanent seats. Britain does not dismiss the long-term legitimacy of such claims, but is worried that a long wrangle over who should have a veto could sour the atmosphere in the UN and distract the security council's work at a time of much more active involvement in peacekeeping.

Britain had no warning of

the remarks by Madeleine Albright, America's ambassador to the UN, but knew the Americans were likely to raise the issue because Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, signalled his views on the matter before his confirmation in office.

The government, however, sees any enlargement of the number of veto-wielding powers as a brake on the cohesion and effectiveness of the security council. It believes the rest of the world would not accept three European permanent members without equal status being given to countries elsewhere in the world.

Britain accepts that it has a moral obligation to its European Community partners to consult them on its votes in the council, knowing that Germany will not press a case as long as it believes that Britain and France are representative of the Twelve. The

*The call for German and Japanese security council seats has been greeted coolly in London, anxiously in Bonn, and with enthusiasm in Tokyo*

two, whose interests are identical on this, have recently made much more effort to inform their partners, although neither wants to be bound formally by an EC vote.

Unlike America, Britain will submit its thoughts privately to Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it" is the phrase most officials use in London. That will be the theme of Britain's submission.

□ **Bonn:** Explicit American support for a permanent German seat on the security council has come as a mixed

blessing to Bonn, which is still not sure that the advantages really outweigh the political and financial costs (Roger Boyes writes).

A year ago Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, was still denying any ambition to join the five permanent members. "If I declared an interest, many people would turn round and say 'you see, now Kohl even wants to get on to the security council'. Well, I don't," he said.

The German position has moved over the past year. Bonn's line now is that it is interested in boosting its UN status, but does not intend to push itself forward. The

change of tack is partly influenced by Japan's more energetic attempts to join the council, and partly by the feeling of impotence that swept Germany during the debate over Western policy in former Yugoslavia.

Most of all, though, there is a sense that Germany should no longer be regarded as one of the losers of the second world war but as one of the victors of the Cold War: a seat at the UN would recognise that new status.

German accession is so complicated, however, that Bonn diplomats are more than happy to put the issue on the back-burner. First, Bonn does not want to challenge or displace Britain or France. Second, Germany must adapt its constitution and educate its society towards broader UN responsibilities. Even the dispatch of a modest force of 1,500 to Somalia prompted an agonised debate.



Third, the financial burden on Germany would increase. Since it would have to duck some peacekeeping operations, it would presumably have to pay more into a war chest. Yet Germany is deep in recession and, even when it dips out again next year, it will be weighed down by structural problems and the huge task of reshaping the east German economy.

Germany is therefore seeking a carefully pitched compromise that enhances its

global status, but allows it to step back at critical moments.

□ **Tokyo:** Japan is the largest contributor to the UN's coffers after the United States and believes that the make-up of the security council should be reorganised to better reflect post-Cold War realities and the contributions of its members (Joanna Pitman writes).

Japan's political and economic leaders have begun to ask themselves whether they should continue to view America as the principal world power. They also ask whether it is in the long-term interest of Japan to continue to finance American prosperity and international leadership when its primary concerns are not necessarily complementary to those of Japan.

So far, however, Japan's leaders have not shown much stomach for proactive foreign policy initiatives of their own.

still less for taking an independent line counter to the foreign policies of the United States. Tokyo's campaign for higher status at the UN was set back during the Gulf war when Japan's response (a financial contribution that exceeded that of Britain and France combined) was perceived by the anti-Iraq allies to be tardy and reluctant.

Each time a new condition for permanent membership of the security council is hinted at by its existing members, Tokyo fulfils it and shows every indication of continuing to do so. Japan, emboldened by the perceived deterioration of America's willingness to lead the world and by a visibly weakened Germany, is determined to claim what it sees as its rightful, more politically powerful place on the international stage.

Leading article, page 15

## Phnom Penh warns of secession unless poll enquiry is held

FROM DAVID BRUNNSTROM IN PHNOM PENH

THE ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP), which was defeated in last month's election, yesterday predicted bloodshed and secessionism unless its demand for an enquiry into alleged poll fraud was granted.

Hun Sen, the prime minister of the Hanoi-installed communist government, also told the all-faction Supreme National Council that his administration would not relinquish power until it got an independent enquiry. He repeated the allegations of grave poll irregularities and, depicting any protests as spontaneous, said: "I can no longer control the situation. Those in the lower ranks don't have the same views as us."

He said that a number of provinces had decided to secede and to reject the result of the United Nations-supervised election and refuse to listen to anybody. He said at least three provinces had broken away, but did not spell out exactly what "secession" entailed.

Diplomats described this as a heavy-handed negotiating tactic aimed at winning a share of power in an interim coalition. Yasushi Akashi, overseeing the most ambitious UN peacekeeping operation to date, said talk of breakaway

provinces was "a move to attain certain objectives". But he added: "Cambodia is small enough. We cannot afford any more divisions."

The UN said that about 600 government party supporters, including armed soldiers and police, staged a protest against the peacekeeping body in eastern Kompong Cham province yesterday. Eric Falt, the UN spokesman, said about 300 people held a similar demonstration in eastern Svay Rieng province. He said both protests were peaceful but many people were armed.

Mr Akashi told a meeting of the Supreme National Council: "The election was free and fair and the Cambodian parties must accept and respect the results in keeping with their commitment under the [1991] Paris peace agreements." Diplomats from the five permanent UN Security Council members — the United States, Russia, Britain, France and China — supported his judgement, along with envoys from Australia, Japan, Thailand and Indonesia. Mr Akashi added: "Mr Hun Sen told us it is very difficult to control these (autonomy) moves." He said Hun Sen told him six provinces in the east and northeast were affected.

## Li Peng returns to duty from sickbed

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

LI PENG, China's unpopular prime minister, has apparently made a miraculous recovery from a mysterious ailment that has kept him in hospital for six weeks.

His absence caused widespread concern about his physical and political health. Officially Mr Li, 64, went missing with nothing more than a "bad cold". Unofficially he is believed to have had one, if not two, heart attacks or strokes. Doubts about whether he could return to any degree of power emerged as it appeared that other leaders were taking advantage of his absence to advance their own positions.

Daruk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, the Malaysian prime minister, is due to visit Peking at Mr Li's invitation. Naturally, Dr Mahathir's agenda and whether or not he would be meeting his host face to face, have prompted intense press speculation.

Wu Jiamin, China's foreign ministry spokesman, attempted to quell the rumours, saying: "Prime Minister Li Peng is doing very well with his recovery. He will receive Prime Minister Mahathir personally." Mr Wu also insisted that the meeting would not take place in hospital. According to the Malaysian embassy in Peking, the two leaders are scheduled to meet on Monday morning in the Great Hall of the People.

Some of the speculation about Mr Li's health may have been wishful thinking. He will never be forgiven by the people of Peking for signing the martial law decree in May 1989 that allowed the People's Liberation Army's tanks to shoot their way to Tiananmen Square to put down the pro-democracy uprising.

Nobody believes, however, that Mr Li was just battling the flu for so long, and the rumours of a serious condition

seem too persistent to write off. Even if he appears as planned on Monday, there are several question marks hanging over his career.

First, whether his illness is he now healthy enough to return to work with all its associated demands? Second, were other Chinese leaders really manoeuvring to get rid of Mr Li? Could Mr Li have speeded his return to the public stage because he feared that he would have no job left?

During Mr Li's absence, Jiang Zemin, the president and general secretary of the Communist Party, made an unusual speech, analysing the problems of the economy — something that would usually be considered Mr Li's area of responsibility. The day-to-day work of the prime minister was taken over by Zhu Rongji, the deputy prime minister, who is widely admired. It would not be surprising if Mr Li felt a little paranoid.

Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the leader of the royalist Funcinpec party which emerged winners in the election, struck a conciliatory note, telling reporters: "Funcinpec is always willing to talk, talk, talk to CPP in order to form a coalition — cabinet, interim administration or government — I really don't mind." Prince Ranariddh described suggestions of autonomous zones as "very serious" and appealed to police and troops to put their country first. He welcomed the government party's decision to attend the first meeting of the elected assembly scheduled to be held next Monday.

Diplomats say personal animosity between Prince Ranariddh and Hun Sen is obstructing any deal. Prince Ranariddh said he could work with Hun Sen but his party members could not accept it. "I don't think the threats... should be taken seriously," said a diplomat. "On the face of it, this is part of a negotiating tactic to get into the (new) government," said another. "But things have the potential to get out of hand and become dangerous."

In Brussels, the European Community said in a statement yesterday that all parties in Cambodia must respect the outcome of the election, a poll it emphasised had been widely described as free and fair. It urged the parties to work together to form a government of reconciliation.

Nine in ten Cambodians voted in the elections organised to try to exorcise 25 years of bloodshed — including a 13-year civil war. The royalists won about 45 per cent of the vote and 58 seats in a new constituent 120-seat assembly. The government party received about 38 per cent and 51 seats. Ten seats went to the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party and one to a small group. The Khmer Rouge boycotted the polls.

□ **Britain kidnaps:** Khmer Rouge guerrillas in western Cambodia kidnapped a British volunteer mine-clearer and two staff members yesterday, their British charity employers said. Christopher Moon, of Reading, was being held with his Cambodian driver and an interpreter, said Matthew Middlemiss, of the London-based Halo Trust, from Pursat near the kidnappers.

He said attempts would be made to contact the Khmer Rouge today. The Halo Trust came to Cambodia in 1991 to help clear the landmines laid by rival factions in the civil war. (Reuters)



Supporting roles: Mia Farrow being escorted through a throng of photographers outside New York's surrogate court. She returned to court on Wednesday to try to end the status of Woody Allen, her former partner, as the father of their adopted children, Moses, 15, and daughter Dylan, 7

## Election test for Iran's regime

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN TEHRAN

## Mullahs pray for high turn-out

AMID strict security precautions reflecting popular unrest at growing economic hardships, 29 million Iranians are entitled to vote today in an election expected to return Hashemi Rafsanjani for his second and last four-year term as president.

To prevent car bombs, vehicles have been barred from parking within 100 yards of the 2,700 polling stations. The last-minute campaign has been marred by a spate of rumours spread through schools by opponents of the strictly Islamic clerical regime that harm will come to the children of those parents who turn out to vote.

Because of the unknown quantity of the only three contenders permitted out of the 127 applicants to stand against the president, the mullahs are looking to the size of the turnout to give credibility to their 14-year-old revolution and fresh impetus to so far abortive attempts to reform the economy.

Since the overthrow of the Shah in 1979, real standards of living have dropped by 50 per cent. Price riots in three

cities last year were put down with brutal efficiency involving public hangings for the ringleaders. The Iraq-based Mujahidin Khalq (People's Holy Warriors) rebels have threatened to disrupt polling with guerrilla attacks. Last month Iranian jets pounded their bases and have threatened to do so again if more attacks are launched.

"The poll is more a referendum on Rafsanjani than a choice about who will run the country. The radicals who oppose his pragmatic approach to economic reform and attempts, however feeble, to open up to the West do not even have a candidate," a Western diplomat said.

Foreign observers are wary about the final voting figures because the voting age has been reduced from 16 to 15 but they expect the poll to be run fairly. All voters have their attendance at the polling stations marked in their ID cards which may encourage a larger turnout for fear that the authorities may take action against non-voters.

Yesterday's Tehran papers were dominated by pleas from



have recently worsened dramatically because of attempts to reform the complex currency structure and a jump in inflation.

"The size of the vote for the winner means a lot because it affects his success, his spirit, his performance and his international standing," Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Khamenei, told a huge, black-shirted rally last week to mark the fourth anniversary of the death of his predecessor and founder of the revolution, Ayatollah Khomeini.

Rafsanjani has been publicly endorsed by the late ayatollah's hardline son, Ahmad, the country's two main pragmatic clerical groupings, and Ali Akbar Nateq-Nouri, the influential Speaker of parliament.

The most effective of the three campaigners pitted against him has been Ahmad Tavakoli, editor of the conservative *Resalat* newspaper. He advocates greater free enterprise and even stricter imposition of traditional Islamic values which have turned Iran into one of the most repressive societies in the world.

## Asians split on human rights

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKEY IN HONG KONG

MEMBERS of Hong Kong's Harvard Club, at lunch in the Harcourt Room of the Hong Club, considered the speaker's invitation: "Let us say, for the sake of argument, that as we left this room, we were arrested by secret police, beaten, starved and then sent off to labour camps for 20 years."

Christine Loh's after-lunch speech was delivered before her departure for Vienna, where the first United Nations conference on human rights for 25 years begins on Monday. Ms Loh, champion of human rights before the Chinese takeover in 1997, is leading a delegation of Asian non-governmental participants to the conference where the preparatory committee, charged with drawing up a draft final declaration, is so badly split that the 50-page document is riddled with discord.

The issue is profound: are human rights universal or should they be mediated by "regional particularities and various historical, cultural, and religious backgrounds"? The view expressed in the Bangkok Declaration, drawn up in April by a group of countries led by China, Indonesia and Burma, is: "The imposition of incompatible values must not be allowed to interfere with sovereignty, especially where those doing the imposing, the rich countries of the north, are themselves the main obstacle to the right of development," itself a basic human right.

"The Chinese official *People's Daily* said: 'The right to subsistence is the most important of human rights... State sovereignty is the basis for the right to subsistence... Western theory pays attention only to a number of so-called 'political dissidents' while ignoring the right to subsistence of the majority of the people.'"

Leading article, page 15

## Excess candour may cost 'mini-Thatcher' top job in Canada

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN OTTAWA

AS THE race to be Canada's next prime minister enters its final days, Kim Campbell, the present defence minister, finds herself lending off claims that while she may have Iron Lady Margaret Thatcher's gumption, she also has Material Girl Madonna's talent to annoy.

About 3,000 members of Canada's Progressive Conservative Party are assembled in Ottawa this week for a five-day convention to choose a party leader to succeed Brian Mulroney, who announced in February that he was stepping down after polls showed him

to be the least popular prime minister in modern Canadian history. Whoever becomes leader will automatically be prime minister until the next national election, expected to be held in the autumn.

In February it seemed that Ms Campbell, 46, an extrovert and outspoken lawyer from Vancouver, would be the clear winner. Her rise to the top of the party as Mr Mulroney's protégée was achieved in just five incident-packed years. "Don't mess with me, I got tanks," she quipped when she assumed the defence post in January.

It is precisely this, the tank-like nature of her personality and her tendency to say



Campbell: photograph outraged Canadians

exactly what is on her mind, that has irritated many Canadians and ensured that the leadership race will be closer than anyone would have predicted. In the past three months, as Ms Campbell's

verbal slips have piled up, Jean Charest, 34, the suave environment minister, has rapidly gained ground.

The latest surveys indicate that, while Ms Campbell still has the backing of more party delegates than her chief rival, the gap is closing fast. She has been praised for her openness, showing a most un-Canadian willingness to talk about herself and her feelings. She has been divorced twice and once described the life of a single woman in Canadian politics as "unspeakably lonely".

Candour, however, can be highly damaging unless laced with tact and, in a remarkably short time, Ms Campbell has managed to offend practically

every section of Canadian society at least once. She called opponents of the Conservatives' economic policies "enemies of Canada", she referred to the "evil demons of the papacy" (to the outrage of Catholics, Canada's largest religious group), and referred to apathetic voters as "condescending SOB's [sons of bitches]".

She has been called a "sharp-tongued" mini-Thatcher, but her nickname, "The Madonna of Canadian politics", was the result of another of her indiscretions. Soon after becoming Canada's first woman justice minister and attorney-general in 1990, she posed for a sugges-

tively bare-shouldered photograph holding her legal gown in front of her. It was a most imaginative shot, amusing and surprising, but outrageous by the norms of Canadian politics.

All of which has left the equally charismatic, but less volatile Mr Charest to campaign as the candidate of caution. He has taken to reciting the tale of the tortoise and the hare to indicate his tactics and confidence of success. However, he also has an Achilles heel: Canada has had a Québecois prime minister for 23 of the past 25 years, and many Anglophone Canadians do not relish the prospect of another five.



# Britain will send bombers to defend Bosnia peace force

By MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT  
AND GEORGE BROCK  
IN ATHENS

BRITAIN has put on standby a squadron of RAF Jaguar bombers for Bosnia to protect the proposed six Muslim "safe areas" designated by the United Nations Security Council. The 12 Jaguars could also be used to add extra firepower to safeguard the lives of British troops in Bosnia if they come under serious attack.

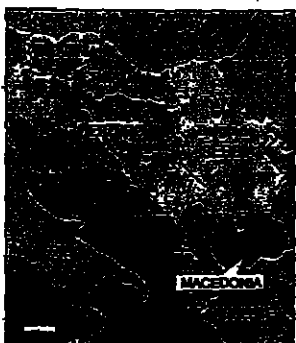
The announcement by Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, was in response to yesterday's decision by Nato foreign ministers in Athens to send jets to Bosnia to provide air cover for UN Protection Force troops who will be guarding the six "safe areas".

The 12 Jaguars have been upgraded to carry extra weapons and equipment. They are armed with Sidewinder missiles and 1,000lb cluster bombs. Pods have been fitted for high-velocity rockets. Jaguars were used successfully during the Gulf war for attacking Iraqi ammunition dumps. Nato has yet to decide when the Jaguars from RAF Colishall in Norfolk should be deployed. They will probably be based in Italy. With a squadron of Jaguars in the region, as well as the eight Harrier jump jets on board the aircraft carrier *Ark Royal* in the Adriatic, Mr Rifkind has decided to bring home the battery of six light 105mm guns sent out in January.

The 300 soldiers sent with the guns returned home in March and remain on short notice. A defence ministry spokeswoman said the guns and men could be sent back by air if required "at very short notice". Mr Rifkind also announced that a number of extra army units and individual specialists were being placed on short notice to move to Bosnia to help protect the British force if necessary.

The ministry declined to detail which units had been put on standby. However, some of the additional troops will be ground air controllers for the Jaguar squadron. The spokeswoman said a wide range of capabilities was to be made available, but there would be no major troop reinforcements at this stage.

■ The West's desire to protect the peacekeepers may result in extra weaponry being used to defend "safe areas"



Defence ministry sources said the decision on when to use the Jaguar aircraft in a combat role should be left to the UNPROFOR commanders in Bosnia. However, ministers are acutely aware that if an air strike is authorised the whole humanitarian aid operation could be put at risk.

The Clinton administration yesterday offered warplanes to help protect peacekeepers in Bosnia in a flurry of moves designed to curb criticism that America is leaving its allies in the lurch.

Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, also announced that 300 American soldiers would join United Nations peace monitors in Macedonia, which borders Bosnia but which has seen no fighting so far. Mr Christopher said that American transport aircraft would be available to ferry troops sent to defend the six Muslim towns designated as havens. But he confirmed America will send no ground troops to Bosnia. One US official commented that the token deployment to Macedonia was aimed at "lifting the curse of our not being there".

Reacting to a question accusing America of "spineless" behaviour over Bosnia, Mr Christopher said that the US would "not be faulted round the world for the courage it showed; whether you talk about Somalia, whether you talk about Desert Storm, the US does its part." He added that America "is taking the most effective steps we know to stop the killing in Bosnia".

But yesterday's improvised show of American commit-

ment did not banish the impression left by a week of European-American meetings of frequent misunderstandings and clashes in the alliance. Lord Owen's warning that Europe can no longer count on full American commitment haunted yesterday's meeting two days after it had been issued.

Air cover "is not limited in my judgment to safe havens and all UN forces are eligible for assistance", Mr Christopher said. Yesterday's decision allows British commanders based in Vitez, which is not designated as a haven, will be able to call in Nato aircraft if they are attacked while helping aid convoys.

The meeting's cautious commitments confirmed the impression which emerged from EC meetings earlier this week that the UN's "safe areas" plan is becoming an increasing embarrassment to America, Britain, France, Russia and Spain which agreed it late last month. American and UN officials have leaked critical comments. Yesterday's meeting here confirmed that armed force would defend UN troops and not be directly extended to civilians. British officials underlined that troops would not fight to reach or establish "safe areas" but create them only where local commanders allowed access to besieged towns.

Mr Hurd was careful to try to lower expectations of the "safe areas" policy. "It could not be summed up as peace with justice," he said, but should be seen as extending an existing and proven policy of saving lives where possible. The "slow ruin" of the Serbian economy and the international community's refusal to recognise or rebuild territorial seized by force would eventually force the Serbs to the negotiating table. "Every statement we have put our hand to talks about Serbian withdrawal. That is going to happen," he said.

Troops robbed, page 1  
Diary, page 14  
Leading article and letters, page 15



Cry for help: a Jordanian UN officer holds a weeping boy, one of some 2,000 Croat refugees from Travnik who arrived in Croatia this week, after fleeing attacks by Bosnian Muslims. The refugees were mainly the elderly, women and children

## Nato aircraft will not protect 'safe areas'

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

DESPITE pledging air power, Nato members have told the United Nations that they have no intention of actually defending the "safe areas" in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

At a private meeting with UN officials this week, diplomats from Britain and other Nato powers made clear that the aircraft their countries are supplying will be used in support of UN peacekeeping troops charged with "detering aggression" against the Muslim enclaves.

But they rejected a call by General Lats-Eric Wahlgren, the commander of UN forces in the former Yugoslavia, for some 30,000 new UN troops to implement last Friday's UN Security Council resolution on protecting the "safe areas". Instead, Britain, Canada, Spain and America, together with Russia and France, told

the UN that its effort to defend the havens was dependent on Bosnian Serb co-operation.

New troops would be sent as they became available, and air power would be used only if requested by these troops. They, however, would be unlikely to call for air attacks for fear of a wider confrontation with the Serbs.

Serb obstruction means the "safe area" around Gorazde does not even have any UN troops in it. It is thus virtually out of the question that air raids will be launched to protect the beleaguered Muslim population there.

The Nato countries now estimate that about 7,000 additional UN troops will be sent, the bulk of them from Pakistan and other Islamic countries. "It's clear that we are not defending the 'safe areas' militarily," a senior

Western diplomat said, adding: "Equally, it is not the case that the threat of air strikes is narrowly circumscribed to the defence of the UN Protection Force. It is to deter aggression."

The six countries who drive Balkan policy at the UN rely on deliberate ambiguities in the security council resolution authorising the use of force to let them off the hook of having to defend the "safe areas".

Resolution 836 changes the mandate of the UN force in Bosnia "in order to enable it, in the 'safe areas', to deter attacks against the 'safe areas', to monitor the ceasefire, and to promote the withdrawal of military and other paramilitary units other than those of the government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to occupy some key points... on the ground".

## Favourable Muslim image shattered as victims turn victors

By MICHAEL EVANS

THE offensive by Muslim forces against the Croats in central Bosnia-Herzegovina could jeopardise the carefully nurtured image of an ethnic group under threat of attack from all sides. They have been cast in the role of victim for 14 months and the focus of the international community has largely been aimed at helping the Muslims.

Although there has been evidence in recent weeks of a build-up of new gun positions in the hills near Vitez and around Travnik, Muslim commanders have always emphasised that their men were under orders not to open fire unless attacked. While this policy has frequently broken down, particularly with the daily sniper fire between Muslims and Croats, the public relations objective was to promote the Muslim force as an army in defence.

For about two months the Croats in central Bosnia have been saying that the Bosnian army, which is mostly Muslim, planned to sweep through Croat-held towns in the area to take over the Lasva valley, much of which would be controlled by the Croats under the Vance-Owen peace plan.

Travnik was always a strategic town for the Muslims because it lies in the middle of a supply road for the Bosnian army, the last section of which runs directly from the town to the west of the Muslim-dominated city of Zenica, bypassing Croat-held Vitez, where the British base is located.

By clearing Travnik and surrounding villages of Croat forces, the Bosnian army now has a clear supply run from

Travnik to Zenica. If that is the Muslims' only objective, their image as the principal victim of the war could survive untarnished, although evidence of atrocities against Croat civilians would soon undermine that reputation in the eyes of the West, intent on setting up six Muslim "safe areas".

The danger for the Muslim image is the revenge motive. The Muslims cannot forget the atrocities committed by Croats against their families. If they now seek revenge in blood, as seems to be the case, sympathy could slip away. The Muslims decided to switch from defence to offence after the decision two weeks ago by America, Britain, France, Russia and Spain to "contain" the fighting by setting up "safe areas" and maintaining sanctions on the Serbs. This was interpreted as a permanent shelving of the Vance-Owen plan and a final rejection of outside military intervention. President Izetbegovic, Bosnia's Muslim leader, reacted by calling his fellow Muslims to arms.

The Croats now fear that the Muslims will follow up their success in Travnik with a second offensive. The aim this time would be to control all the exits from Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, on the western side from Tarcin, southwest of the capital, through Kresovo and Kiseljak to Visoko, to the northwest, linking up with the route from Zenica to Travnik.

An offensive of that scale would paint the Muslims in a different light, even though they could argue they were fighting for their existence.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Boesky gains in divorce

New York: Ivan Boesky, the convicted insider dealer, has pulled off surely one of the most remarkable deals of his career, an alimony settlement in which he gets \$20 million (£13 million) in cash, a \$2.5-million home in California and the rest of his life (our own Correspondent writes). The amount was about half what he originally sought in a divorce settlement from his former wife, Seema.

#### Haiti embargo

New York: The United States and its allies are to press the UN Security Council for an oil, arms and financial embargo on Haiti to force the restoration of the ousted president, Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

#### Mafia arrests

Palermo: Italian police have struck at the Mafia again, arresting two allegedly close associates of Salvatore "Totò" Riina in Palermo, and swooping on dozens more in Milan and Puglia. (Reuters)

#### Rebel honour

Lisbon: President Soares of Portugal has awarded Xanana Gusmao, the jailed East Timor rebel who led guerrillas fighting for independence, one of his country's top honours. (Reuters)

#### Touvier in Paris

Paris: Alleged war criminal Paul Touvier, 78, whom the Wiesenthal Centre said had fled to Canada, is in Paris, his lawyer said. M. Touvier is on trial for crimes against humanity. (AFP)

#### Sect raided

Paris: Police say they have arrested 52 adults and brought in more than 140 children for questioning after raids on the Children of God sect, which preaches free love for all ages. (Reuters)

## Aide led magistrates to investigate Andreotti

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

INVESTIGATING magistrates disclosed yesterday that evidence from an aide of Giulio Andreotti led them to suspect that Italy's former Christian Democrat prime minister may have ordered the murder of Mino Pecorelli, a journalist, in 1979.

Franco Evangelisti, the Christian Democrat MP, told magistrates last month that the carabinieri general, Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, showed him a secret transcript of an interrogation of Aldo Moro, the Christian Democrat statesman, by the Red Brigades terrorists who kidnapped him in 1978, before murdering him. Signor Evangelisti quoted Dalla Chiesa as saying that he would give the document to Signor Andreotti. Investigators suspect that Signor Pecorelli may have acquired a copy and tried to blackmail Signor Andreotti over disclosures Moro made about alleged financial links between Andreotti supporters and the Mafia.

"There were many people who had an interest in suppressing Pecorelli," said Vittorio Mele, the Rome prosecutor heading the investigation. "Among these Andreotti, both for the Moro affair and for the things Pecorelli knew in relation to financial affairs."

But, he added, there was insufficient evidence to charge him. "We do not have evidence that leads us to conclude



Andreotti: wants speedy trial to clear his name

Andreotti was responsible. There is an accusation that has to be checked."

The magistrates quoted testimony by Signor Evangelisti and others in a 92-page request to the senate to lift Signor Andreotti's parliamentary immunity from prosecution so they can investigate an accusation by a Mafia supergrass, Tommaso Buscetta, that the former prime minister arranged the murder of the editor of the magazine, *Osservatore Politico*.

Signor Andreotti yesterday renounced his immunity on the Pecorelli affair and called for a speedy trial to clear his name of what he called a "lynching" by supergrasses. He has always denied seeing the so-called "Moro memorials" that investigators believe Dalla Chiesa found in a raid on a Red Brigades hideout in Rome. Dalla Chiesa was murdered in Sicily in 1982 and investigators are also investigating whether Signor Andreotti may have been implicated.

## Yeltsin gives leeway to his opponents

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin offered a compromise to his political opponents yesterday, saying that the draft constitution proposed by parliament should be considered alongside his own. Mr Yeltsin's move followed negotiations with moderate opposition leaders on Wednesday.

He told the constitutional assembly that the two drafts "are not in competition" and that constructive work is necessary to reconcile them. He also toned down previously harsh criticism of Russia's system of local councils, or soviets, which are usually dominated by the former communist elite. These were two of the conditions set by Russian Khasbulatov, the parliamentary Speaker, for the standing parliament to join with the constitutional assembly in discussing the future constitution.

Mr Khasbulatov, whose authority has decreased greatly since Mr Yeltsin's referendum victory, is proposing to hold a separate parliament-sponsored constitutional conference next month. Yesterday,

however, Mr Khasbulatov temporarily disappeared from the scene with an unspecified disease, possibly diplomatic.

Huge differences exist between Mr Yeltsin's proposal for a French-style executive presidency and the parliamentary majority's proposal for a German-style system in which the executive is determined by parliament. It is possible that some compromise could be achieved, but the result might be a sad bunch that would generate endless constitutional disputes.

## Cartesian doubts afflict le bac pack

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

DOPED on Descartes and maimed with Nietzsche, over 600,000 French school pupils submit today that peculiarly Gallic torture, the compulsory four-hour test in philosophy which dominates the *baccalaurat* exams, the equivalent of A-levels.

It matters not that the child is bent on a career in computing or a degree in agriculture. At 8am, trembling teenage palms from Nice to Dunkirk will start scratching out 1.8 million essays pondering the meaning of life with relevant reference to the Great Thinkers. If it was good enough for Napoleon, who put philosophy at the core of his new exam scheme in 1808, it is good enough today, say the guardians of French culture.

Any adolescents who hoped otherwise had their illusions quashed this week by François Bayrou, the new education

minister. He scrapped a scheme by his Socialist predecessors that would have allowed an element of continuous assessment and accumulation of scores from previous exams and he raised the weight given to the philosophy test which always opens the *bac* season. Sixth-formers take seven other compulsory subjects according to whether they specialise in arts or sciences.

The *baccalaurat* will remain a national exam, an event in the life of the pupil, M. Bayrou said. There was only a little grumbling from those who object to the high-pressure and centralised ways of French education and who wonder what Rousseau and Socrates can mean for youngsters weaned on rap and Nintendo. With its unabated commitment to fostering elites, France is at the opposite extreme from the American view that children should not be subjected to anything which disturbs their self-esteem.

Last year pupils were asked to

expound on a text by Rousseau on the "imbalance of passion". As a guide, take the suggested answer in one of the many cramming books to last year's question: "Up to what point does knowing imply doubting?" The pupil is advised to start with a general definition of knowledge and then to move on with a nod to the inevitable Descartes, saying something like: "It is obviously chez Descartes that doubt, becoming methodical and hyperbolic, is affirmed as the absolutely necessary and constituent moment in the process of knowledge." The model pupil is advised to produce a rigorous conclusion along the lines: "Doubt constitutes an essential stage of thought."

Candidates may be subject to considerable self-doubt. Last year only 73 per cent passed their *bac*, a step which entitles them to an automatic place at university and the start of a long climb up one of the world's most arduous educational ladders.

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## Fertile imaginings

A baby, they say, is God's opinion that the world should go on. No doubt that accounts for the cheery tone in which it was generally reported yesterday, amid the encircling gloom of all the other news, that women in their forties are apparently twice as fertile now as they were a decade ago. My goodness, there were more babies born to creaky old dears like Felicity Kendal, Jane Asher and Patricia Hodge in 1991 — a grand total of 9,800 in the United Kingdom — than at any time since the early seventies.

Is this a straw in the wind from heaven, to be clutched by those who have read such omens as the halving of male sperm counts worldwide in the past 50 years, and trembled? Is it one in the eye for the medical profession, which used to boost the self-esteem of any women over 30 carrying her first baby by calling her an "elderly primigravida", or is it a laurel for its collective brow? Frankly, I'm not sure, but I feel that Norman Lamont might scent a whiff of short-termism about it all.

In 1985, professors Trussell and Wilson, of Princeton and the LSE respectively, trawled through 300 years' worth of British parish registers of births, marriages and deaths to see how patterns of fertility looked before reliable contraception came along to confuse the picture. What they found confirmed the common wisdom that fertility dropped off after 35 and that the childbearing years are, and always have been, over for the great majority of women by the age of 40. (Even the ultra-religious, inbred Protestant Hutterites of North America, much marvelled at for their fecundity, conform to this pattern.)

The British study did show, however, that more than 40 per cent of the women who did not marry until they were 40 in those distant days between 1550 and 1849 managed, never-



MARGOT NORMAN

theless, to produce at least one child. That they did it without benefit of test tube or any of those user-friendly acronyms, like Gift, that pepper the language of late 20th century fertility doctors may encourage the many who now embark on a second marriage with high hopes but low expectations of starting a second family.

Maybe it is because God is an optimist, or maybe it is just because people who have recently fallen in love are likely to apply themselves to the preliminaries for procreation more energetically than those whose honeymoon is a distant memory.

Robert Winston, who as the director of Hammer-smith Hospital's famous fertility clinic induced the stork to visit large numbers of really quite elderly primigravidae, used to tell his patients there was little that even he could do to alter their basic lack of fertility after a certain age.

Yet the fact that this increase in births to the over-forties has happened in London, with the rate virtually unchanged in the rest of the country, does look as if it may reflect the fact that London is where the best fertility clinics are. If only our neo-natal units matched their skill: one of yesterday's grimmest news items told us that more than 1,000 newborn babies, a third of those who die soon after birth, died needlessly in 1991 because 200 intensive-care units for babies cannot meet their own guidelines for staffing and equipment. Older women's babies are more likely to be premature and to need this intensive care. I wonder

how many women of a certain age joyfully joined the over-forties live birth statistics, only to see that new life snuffed out a few days later because the hospital could find neither a cot nor a nurse.

Speaking as a... well... not exactly gymslip mother myself, I must say I have noticed more grey hairs than I remember from my own childhood among the crowds waiting to collect children from playgroups and infant schools. In fact, if I extrapolated from those groups (middle-class metropolitan professionals, mostly, often in second marriages), I would assume there were a lot more than 10,000 babies born to 40-ish Londoners. But then, when I first went through the playgroup routine I assumed that some terrible blight had afflicted those aged 25 to 35, since there were none in evidence. Then I realised that the very young contingent, 19-25 and in the prime of reproductive capacity, were all nannies or au pairs. In that milieu, it can be quite lonely being a youngish mum.

Stroll through the parks, Hyde, Regent's or Holland on any sunny Sunday and you are likely to witness the following scene: "Now stop it, I'm telling you for the last time, if you do that again I'll smack your bottom." Exit four-year-old at high speed, pursued by cross mother. Five minutes later, re-enter mother, puffing, red in face and chastened, saying: "He's only four and I can't even catch him!" It's my contention that the decline of smacking has more to do with the tendency of social workers, child care experts etc. to be older and slower these days than it has to do with high-mindedness. What is at issue is not so much the harmful effect of corporal punishment on the child, more a matter of the catastrophic effect on parental authority of trying but failing to catch the blighter.

## The ration-book warrior

Nigel Hawkes  
on the  
nutritionists who  
invented the  
modern diet

What's in bread? So asks a cheery leaflet issued for National Bread Week and it helpfully answers its own question. There is carbohydrate, protein, B group vitamins, fibre, iron and calcium. How this last ingredient came to be there, and why it is still there, involves a trip back to 1940, and a remarkable partnership which this year celebrated its 60th anniversary.

McCance and Widdowson are as inseparable a pairing as Marks & Spencer. Together, in the 1930s, they put the food we eat under the microscope and for the first time prepared tables listing the energy values of all foods, from corn flakes to cod steaks. Now in its fifth edition — faster, like most of us, for the passage of the years — *McCance and Widdowson's Food Tables* is the nutritionist's bible.

Later this month the British Nutrition Foundation is holding a conference to celebrate the pair's scientific achievements. Alas, Professor Robert McCance will not be there: he died at the age of 94 in March this year. But Dr Elsie Widdowson, a few years younger, will not only be there but is still actively working as a scientist, with a paper on the physiology of the newborn bear about to appear in the *British Journal of Nutrition*.

True, Dr Widdowson no longer goes to the lab. She retired first in 1973, and a second time in 1988; but she is not really the retiring type. Her cottage in Barrington, near Cambridge, is lined with bound volumes of scientific journals, warring for space with several generations of cats. Asked to reflect on her career, she attributes all the most



Hale and hearty: Dr Widdowson, left, "on rations" in the Lake District in 1940, and today at home in Cambridge

interesting bits to Professor McCance: "He was the one with all the bright ideas. I followed," she says, though this is unduly modest. Their relationship was, as one of their students remarks in a celebratory volume of reminiscences, the perfect scientific marriage. She acted as a foil and a filter from him, initially a disciple and later a distinguished research worker in her own right.

At the outbreak of war, they realised that rationing was inevitable, and set out to make a virtue of necessity. They began a scientific study of rationing that left Britain, ultimately, a healthier nation in spite of the privations of war. "We based our recommendations on the amounts of meat, dairy products, eggs and fruit Britain could produce. Then, of course, we couldn't produce enough wheat — we assumed we'd have to import that, and use a high extraction flour to make the best of it."

By this time, Dr Widdowson had made an unexpected discovery about diet. Using the Food Tables, she analysed the diets of individuals, 63 men and 63 women, and 1,000 children of different ages.

"What came out was the

enormous variation in energy intake, in every age group," she says. "In each group there were some people eating twice as many calories as others. It wasn't because they were greedy, or fat. Why was a bit of a mystery, and nobody's got to the bottom of it even today."

To allow for this difference, no limits were set in the rations for energy foods, bread and potatoes. "It meant that big eaters didn't starve," she says. "Countries that didn't adopt this principle didn't do as well."

To prove that the proposed rations were adequate, Professor McCance suggested a visit to the Lake District just after Christmas 1939. By this time the hardy volunteers, including McCance himself, Dr Widdowson and Andrew Huxley, later a Nobel Prize-winning physiologist and president of the Royal Society, had been on the rations for three months. In the Lake District they strode the fells and measured their calorie intake.

On January 2, 1940, McCance and Huxley covered 36 miles and climbed 7,000 feet. Huxley's diary records it plegmatically: "Stake Pass, Borrowdale, Honister, Scarth Gap, Black Sail, Wasdale

Head, Boot, Hard Knott, Wrynose — a long walk, not a cloud in the sky all day." His energy consumption that day was 4,700 calories. The enterprise, a typical McCance jaunt, proved pretty conclusively that rationing need not mean inadequate nutrition.

The only worry was calcium. With very limited amounts of milk and cheese, it seemed possible that people would fall short. McCance and Widdowson discovered that in high-extraction brown flour, phytate, a phosphorus compound, interferes with calcium absorption. Accordingly calcium was added to all bread, including white. All bread, that is, except wholemeal, the sort that needed it most: the pure food lobby emerged victorious from that battle. Calcium is still added to white bread today, though the need for it has long since disappeared.

After the war, Dr Widdowson spent three years in Germany, investigating the vexed question of which sort of bread is best. Some experiments by Harriet Chick suggested that rats grew better on brown bread, but the same

was certainly not true of children in German orphanages. Eating a mere eight grams of protein from animal sources a day and filling up on bread, all the children gained weight and height at the same speed, regardless of the type of bread. "They all did splendidly — you couldn't tell the difference," Dr Widdowson says.

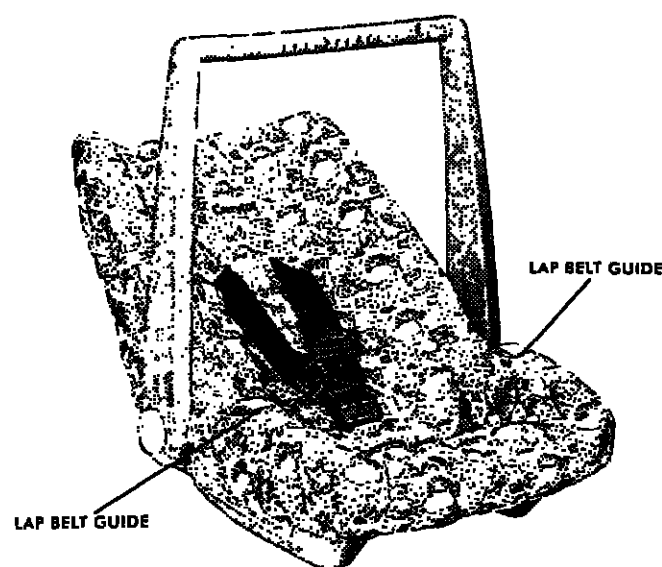
Many of McCance and Widdowson's most interesting experiments were conducted on themselves. Some of the studies, including a heroic series in the 1930s in which volunteers made themselves deficient in salt by eating a salt-free diet and spending two hours a day sweating under lamps, helped to gain greater appreciation for the importance of fluids and sodium, today a key part of intensive care for patients with diabetic coma, kidney disorders and heart problems.

At eighty-something — she is coy about her age — Dr Widdowson is far from ready to give up. "My mother lived to be 107," she says cheerfully. "I've had a lot of fun."

● McCance and Widdowson, a scientific partnership of 60 years, edited by Margaret Ashwell, is being published by the British Nutrition Foundation

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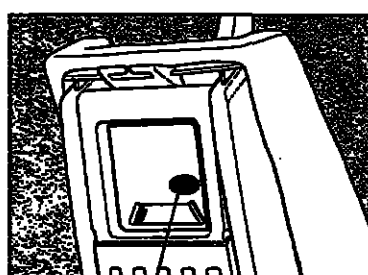
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S1589	S1669
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S1605	S1683
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**KLIPPAN**

## Spot the academic copycat

Is truth served by a machine that detects the furtive plagiarist?

THE age-old academic rivalry between scientists and men of letters has come to a head in America over "a plagiarism machine", a computer that can locate identical passages in different books and thus identify when writers have copied material from their colleagues.

The machine is the brainchild of two American government scientists, Walter Stewart and Dr Ned Feder, and as yet it has been used only once — to locate what its inventors claim are hundreds of examples of plagiarism in the work of one of America's most prominent historians.

But, far from being lauded for their sleuthing, the scientists have caused serious embarrassment to the government and the equivalent of an earthquake in the groves of academe. Immediately after the allegations were made public, the investigative unit into academic malpractice run by the two scientists was closed down by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), on the grounds that they had overstepped their authority, and they were reassigned to other duties.

In protest at the government's actions, Stewart went on a hunger strike which is now in its thirty-second day. A biophysicist by training and an expert in the nervous systems of snails, Mr Stewart has lost more than 25 lb since his fast began, and his family and friends say his condition may soon become critical.

Before their investigations were abruptly terminated last month, Mr Stewart and Dr Feder had built up a reputation as America's leading detectives of scientific misconduct. Nicknamed the "fraud busters" and working out of a basement in Washington DC, the pair rooted out evidence of malpractice with almost messianic zeal to the obvious irritation of some of their colleagues.

Last year, the pair perfected their plagiarism machine, a cluster of computer programs which rapidly scans books to pick out identical 30-letter sequences. They then applied it to the work of Professor Stephen Oates, a well-known historian at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

This was not the first time that

Professor Oates's scholarship had come under the microscope. A year ago the American Historical Association (AHA), carried out an investigation into his 1977 biography of Abraham Lincoln, *With Malice Toward None*. Although the AHA did not find him guilty of plagiarism, it concluded he should have made stronger attribution of his sources.

But the evidence compiled by Mr Stewart and Dr Feder, and presented in a 1,400-page document to the AHA earlier this year, on the face of it, damning. They claimed to have identified 500 instances of plagiarism in several of Professor Oates's works, including his best-selling 1982 biography of Martin Luther King.

PROFESSOR Oates denied the charges, insisting that the machine could not distinguish between genuine plagiarism and the repetition of every day words and phrases. The contested passages, he said, were simply "common phrasing, common factual matters from common sources".

The government was also clearly embarrassed. Saying that the two investigators had "gone too far", NIH officials closed down their offices and laboratory, changed all the locks and told them to stop working on all their investigations. The officials insisted that the men had been granted permission to use their machine to scan Professor Oates's work for evidence of plagiarism, but not to confront him with the results. Mr Stewart and Dr Feder were working on their own," said a spokeswoman for NIH.

Claiming that they had not been given a chance to defend themselves, Mr Stewart, 48, said he would consume nothing but water in protest at the decision. According to the latest reports, his health is deteriorating rapidly, his

pulse is slowing and he is being tended in Dr Feder's Washington home, wrapped in a winter coat because his body can no longer generate sufficient heat. But his tactics, unique in an academic fracas of this sort, appear to be working.

Earlier this week the Department of Health and Human Services, which oversees the NIH, announced that it would review the case and Audrey Manley, the acting assistant secretary for health, telephoned Mr Stewart and urged him to end his hunger strike.

HE HAS not done so, and insists he will continue to go without food until he is reinstated and the investigations on which the team was working are allowed to continue. "They've sealed our lab and forbidden us to talk about our work of the last five years," Mr Stewart told the Associated Press. "That is not right." Mr Stewart, who is married with four children, has not said whether he plans to fast until death.

The AHA, meanwhile, has said it is conducting an investigation into the allegations made against Professor Oates. The professor himself has demanded an open hearing into the charges. "I do not intend to co-operate in my self-destruction in the closed proceedings of this Orwellian body," he says.

The dispute has split the academic community along traditional feuding lines: while many scientists point out that empiricism is the best guard against scholarly fraud, academics in the humanities are appalled that scientists feel they can sit in judgment on them.

But almost the entire academic community seems to be agreed that moral terrorism is inappropriate for academics and government employees. When a journalist from the *Washington Post* pointed out to Mr Stewart the fatal results of this tactic when used by Northern Irish hunger strikers, his response was a curious one: "Bill Clinton is not Margaret Thatcher," he said, "and I'm not the IRA."

BEN MACINTYRE



# Is there one law for us and another for the rich and famous? Dominick Dunne believes there is

## 'Women, especially, tell him their secrets — of murder in high places, of unpunished scoundrels'



### THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW

I watch him, centre-stage in the Crystal Room of the Berkeley Hotel, being serially kissed by women with carmine lips, manes of hair, couture jackets and spiky heels. "We must have lunch," they whisper on departing, "and I'll give you some more gossip — and get myself into more trouble..."

What is it about Dominick Dunne that makes people want to confide in him? He is a small, gentle, grey-haired man in his sixties, with a furrowed, anxious brow; slightly hard of hearing (his surgeon father boxed his ears for being a sissy, an opinion he revised when Dunne came home from the second world war with a hero's medal). Women, especially, tell him the secrets they would otherwise carry to their graves — of murder and manipulation in high places, of contested wills, of unpunished scoundrels. But it is when rich families close ranks to protect their own that he finds his favourite themes.

Perhaps they talk because he seems so unthreatening. His former life as a Hollywood producer ended in alcoholism, a last disastrous flop film with the Burtons, and his divorce from his wife, Lennie. But the turning point of his life was when his actress daughter, Dominique, was murdered by her ex-lover, John Sweeney, chief of the swish Hollywood restaurant, Ma Maison. Tina Brown persuaded Dunne to write an account of Sweeney's trial for *Valerie Grove* in 1984. It was one of life's toughest assignments, but out of the courtroom torments — with a preening, posing young judge, the usual character assassination of the dead victim, the desecration of a moving masterpiece. He went on to chronicle other stories of the injustice that prevails when the rich and privileged go to law, and followed up with novels, like *An Inconvenient Woman*, based on Vicki Morgan, mistress of Alfred Bloomingdale, who was clubbed to death after the department store chief died in her house.

Two years ago, Dunne was in Palm Beach for the rape trial of Willie Kennedy Smith. He hadn't wanted to go. He had been a friend and neighbour of the Peter Lawford's. "Peter was a sweet, funny, charming guy who became a pathetic figure when cast in the role of Kennedy family pimp, procurer and drug-dealer." As Dunne sat in the crowded courtroom, Pat Kennedy Lawford's blue and white silk dress brushed the sleeve of his blazer. "And everyone stared straight ahead." That scene is replayed in his latest novel, *A Season in Purgatory*, about a rich Irish Catholic family, the Bradleys, for whom

money conquers (and towers up) all. "I was appalled by that Kennedy trial, appalled by the attitude of 'How dare this be happening to us?'"

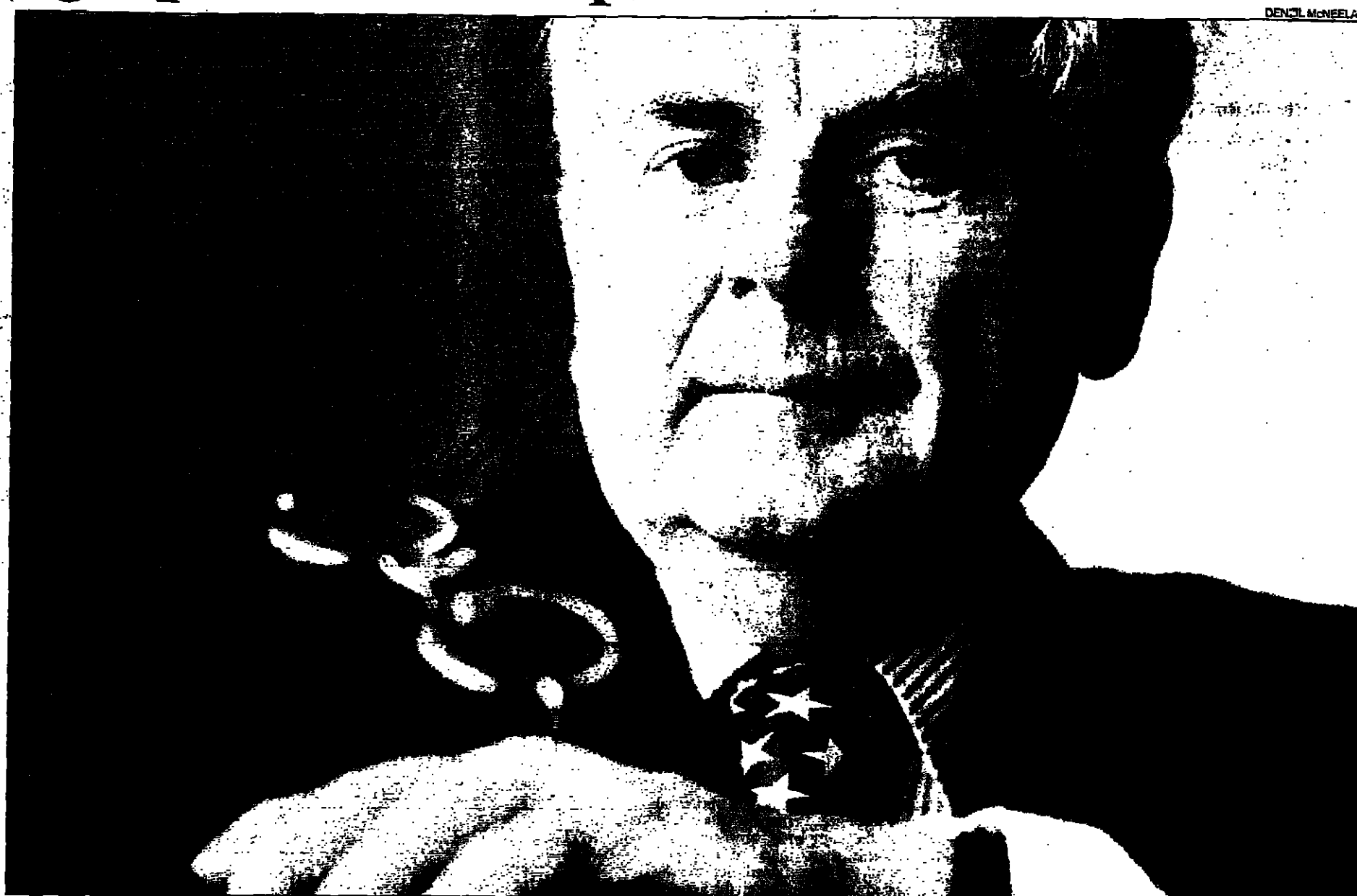
He saw the family's PR apparatus swing into action. Teddy Kennedy's "imperial" arrival in court. Eunice Kennedy Shriver addressing the throng outside, about "this sad trial", as if it were just a nuisance, and wishing everyone "the gift of loyal family relationships". Willie Smith making a speech outside, the family beaming proudly as if he had won an election, not an acquittal.

But though the family in Dunne's book mirrors the Kennedys, the crime in the book is a murder. It is based on an unsolved case of a 15-year-old girl, murdered 18 years ago in Greenwich, Connecticut. The chief suspect has always been a nephew of Ethel Kennedy, widow of the assassinated Bobby. Her family, the Skakels, were as rich, as abundant and as tragedy-prone as the Kennedys. The Skakel and Kennedy girls went to the same convent school as Dunne's sisters, for Dunne grew up in a New England family like the Kennedys: wealthy Irish Catholics, outsiders among WASPs.

Since the book came out, Dunne has discovered far more. He went to Greenwich to do a reading from his book ("I love it — and I'm so good at it! I love playing all the parts") one rainy morning in the yacht club. "I was unsure what reception I would get, having put the spotlight on their town and their crime. But they said, 'You've got such guts.' It's an incredibly rich community. Big houses. Private security guards. Almost no crime. Afterwards, one woman took me aside. 'I know what happened. They were in my house that night. It wasn't one boy, it was three boys. They were drunk and they were stoned.' I said, would you go to the police and she said, 'I can't'."

**B**ut I intend to tell all this to the police on the 17th of this month. Their investigation at the time was quite inept. The girl was killed with a golf club, and the head of the club had the initials of this family on it. You call that a clue or what? Is that worth investigating? Oh, I don't think so.

"This family told the police. 'If you have any questions, put them in writing and submit them to our lawyer.' Would that happen to you or me? When an accident happens, they call not the police but their lawyer." Dunne's scant regard for lawyers is, he feels, justified by the very notion of the Harvard Law School inviting Claus von Bulow to ad-



Dominick Dunne, the investigator: "The girl was killed with a golf club, and the head of the club had the initials of this family on it. You call that a clue or what?"

dress it. "I've got nothing against people with money," he adds, "because I've got money now, and I love it too." He once asked Gloria Vanderbilt which was better, inherited or earned wealth. "Oh darling," she replied, "the money you make is better."

Fearlessness does not win friends. His last magazine story was about Lord Lucan, who he is convinced is still alive. Only the other morning in Mayfair, one of the Lucan circle, whose Bel Air party he had been to last year, cut him dead. "But if Lucan's dead, why the hell do they care so much? It seems odd to me they protest too much. But I never thought of these people as real friends. Their parties aren't that important to me. Poor Truman cared too much. He was devastated by losing friends after *Answered Prayers*. The truth is, in our kind of life, you haven't got to care."

"Who was Mary Jo Kopechne? Sure, von Bulow? Sandra Rivett? I absolutely believe in keeping those names alive. That's what's important to me. Not the goddamn parties, who cares, who cares? There's always some party." His mantel shelf at Claridges is, I note, stiff with invitation cards.

It is typical of Dunne's Irish luck that he arrived in London to find Jamie Blandford saying: "I am the new Lord Lucan". People are still sidling up to say they have further information on the Lucan

story. He is meeting someone this very day... Though he seems to know everyone, and remembers their life-stories with total clarity, he has a solitary life in Manhattan, eating alone at the Waldorf Astoria, living in the same block as Stephen Sondheim (a friend from Williams College days) and Katharine Hepburn.

"The sadness of my life, and my wife would agree, was that we ever got divorced. We should have ridden out our rough times. My son's marriage is in a rough time now and I say: 'Griffin, it ain't worth it. Neither Lennie nor I ever married again. She by the way is a hopeless invalid (multiple sclerosis). But after the murder, we spent so much time together, wounded people clinging together, that cemented a friendship that nothing can put asunder."

"I am always available to Parents of Murdered Children, to go and see someone or speak somewhere, and I will do that all my life. But I tell them, making the murder of your child the main theme of your life is a bad idea. My family came to the conclusion we had to let Sweeney go."

One explanation for the trust he inspires is that he will talk so freely himself. Ask him where he thinks Lord Lucan is, and he replies, "It's not unlikely he might be in South America, but I think he has probably moved around a lot

with the help of a private plane." Ask the source of any ring-of-truth dialogue in a novel and he will tell you. His latest anti-hero, Constant Bradley, asks a girl to dance in strikingly crude terms: "I hope you don't mind dancing with a man with an erection." Which Kennedy? I asked. "It wasn't a Kennedy. The girl herself reported it to me. It was..." and he named a member of our own Royal Family.

And where did he get the hilarious Chinese clearing

lady called Cleanie-Cleanie? "That is the housekeeper of Jamie Blandford's aunt, Lady Sarah Spencer-Churchill, who is a country neighbour of mine." Dunne's novels have bought him a country house in Connecticut.

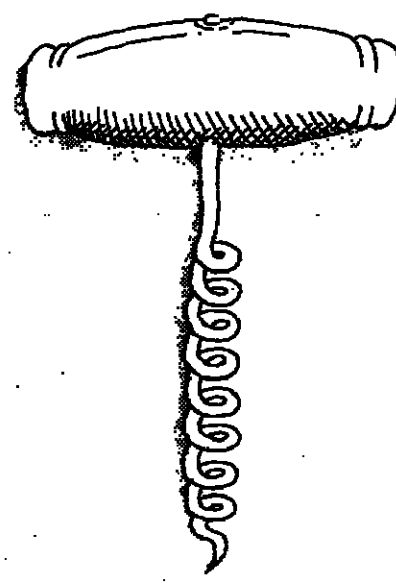
Soon he will be off to cover the trial of the Menendez brothers, the rich, tennis-playing pair accused of shooting their parents dead in Beverly Hills. But some trials he will not touch. Invited to cover the Woody Allen-Mia Farrow

case, he said no: he was too close to Mia, knew too much.

If no behaviour seems too soulless or sleazy to feature in a Dunne novel, they are observed from life, not invented. There would be an Aristotelian element of hubris, if so many of the *dramatis personae* did not lack any worth but the financial sort. He likes to invoke Trollope, keeping characters like Basil Plant (his Truman Capote figure) resurfacing in every novel; but such highfalutin literary paral-

els are a touch fanciful. His more obvious inspiration is *The Great Gatsby*. Fitzgerald's description of the Buchanan as "careless people... They smashed up things and creatures and then retreated back into their money or their vast carelessness or whatever it was that kept them together, and let other people clean up the mess they had made" fits almost every family in his *galère* where so much is vanity, and so little fair.

# Buy The Times tomorrow and it's not all you'll be opening.



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THE TIMES

### After nine controversial years, Portfolio bows out this week

## Bingo? Good heavens, no...

WHEN reports began circulating in 1984 that this most august of journals was about to introduce a bingo game to its pages, we denied it like anything. Bingo was for the common tabloid, falling far short of the high standards of greed, Thackerian days to give away £1 million to any reader with the right card. "We would not introduce bingo because there is no doubt that it would upset a lot of readers, and we wouldn't be foolish enough to do it," our corporate spokesman announced.

And nor did we, on June 25, 1984, we launched instead Portfolio, a daily amusement designed and tailored to The Times by Barry Kilby, a Lancashire-based newspaper games specialist, and bearing no conceivable resemblance to a numbers game played by old ladies in converted cinemas.

Not everyone was convinced. "No one with a scrap of intelligence is fooled by the snooty alternative title," scoffed the *Daily Mirror*, gleefully noting that aggrieved Times staff journalists, minds disciplined to higher planes of endeavour, had called in their union. The *Observer* forecast "Spot the grouse" competitions on the sports pages.

The only people who liked it were the readers. "We don't want to play but, by bingo, if we do, we'll think the less of Auntie yet we'll stick to her like glue," wrote a retired naval commander to the letters page from the traditionalist heartland of Hampshire. Within weeks the nightly print run of the paper was

increased by 180,000 to satisfy demand, and what was launched as a three-month summer diversion lasted for nine years.

The first winner was a Harrow schoolboy who checked his card, one of more than two million distributed, just before sitting his English A level. The daily prize was £2,000, and it still is.



despite occasional decisions along the way to offer seriously big money. The biggest winner of all was a Hampshire farmer's wife who scooped £290,000 in the days when the game included an accumulator. But pools-sized wins were never particularly popular, and were dropped; Times readers are clearly by nature more cerebral than acquisitive.

The thrill was in the checking: winning claims had to be telephoned by 3.30 in the afternoon, promoting a variety of self-imposed disciplines among participants. "At 8.30 this evening I discovered that The Times Portfolio dividend matched my total. Do I qualify as the first cuckoo of spring?" That letter immediately provoked another from a reader who claimed he never looked at his card if the daily deadline had passed. "Do

I qualify as the first ostrich of spring?"

A reader in Edinburgh suspected that the game was fixed. In fact it was based on nothing more sinister than the theory of probability. On any day there were probably 36 cards in circulation with the winning combination, but claimants rarely exceeded three or four. The socially-conscious *Guardian* encouraged readers to send their cards to a computer checking company which would donate any winnings to a Sudan famine appeal. Still the game went on, a daily reflection of the stock market's seismic upheavals: on many a day the winning number has been a substantial minus.

Since that first day, some 5,500 winners, from the wife of an appeal court judge to the nine-year-old daughter of a Norwich shopkeeper, and a little embarrassingly, the dramatic critic of *The Daily Telegraph*, have pocketed a total of £11,124,000. Portfolio's course, however, is sadly run, but it lives on around the world in at least 15 leading newspapers, from Thailand to Chile, where readers know it as *Gran Concurso de Valores*. Negotiations are in progress to sell it to an East European daily as a capitalist teaching aid.

We exhort readers not to despair; a new amusement is in the brewing. It will not, however, as one correspondent in the early days feared would be the next step, entail the brightening of page 3 in the manner of one of our stablemates with smaller pages.

ALAN HAMILTON



## Janet Daley



### Trade unions are stirring ominously, and bidding to renew their influence over policy

Just when you thought it was safe to go soft on the unions — poor old things, disoriented by a flood of legislation, discredited by extremist infiltration, dispossessed by an apathetic working class — back they come, red in tooth and claw. The respite from their political ambitions under Thatcherism has proved to be just that: a mere pause for breath in their adversarial contest with elected (or would-be elected) government. All that was needed was a vacuum at the top — a lapse of strong-minded conviction in the running of the country — to allow the old self-seeking protectionism to flood through the gates.

Once weak leadership and, in the now famous phrase, short-termism replaced a real understanding of the wider problems of national life in government, the moment for resurgence had come. So badly managed is Tory policy now that even Arthur Scargill has been rehabilitated: no longer the anarcho-syndicalist threat to democracy, he appears as the saviour of a traditional industry and way of life which was being tragically threatened by (guess what) short-termism.

#### Sectional interests may again imperil our democracy

At the moment, the battle is being joined on two fronts. The teaching unions threaten sabotage with unabashed bravado in response to any attempt by a democratically elected government to make them publicly accountable. Meanwhile, giant megalopolises such as NUPE and the GMB glower down on the puny figure of the Labour party leader and ask him who he thinks he is. Modernisation may be harmless enough as a topic for think-tank seminars, but the Opposition is not to get any silly ideas about being an independent political party. John Smith may have had a good moment in the Commons on Wednesday, but he has had a bad week. How grateful he must have been to Norman Lamont for wiping from the front pages his humiliating checkmate by the unions on one-member-one-vote party reform.

The leader of the GMB, John Edmonds, gave him a dressing-down in what used to be known as headmasterly tones until their union revealed that headmasters are now as undisciplined as a mob of jeering rough-necks as any bunch of building workers. Roughly paraphrasing, what Mr Edmonds said was: "We (the trade unions) pay for the Labour party and so, the normal rules of exchange being applied, we own it." But his speech at the union conference was more than a crude warning that the unions had no intention of funding a vehicle over which other people would exercise as much, but not more, power than themselves.

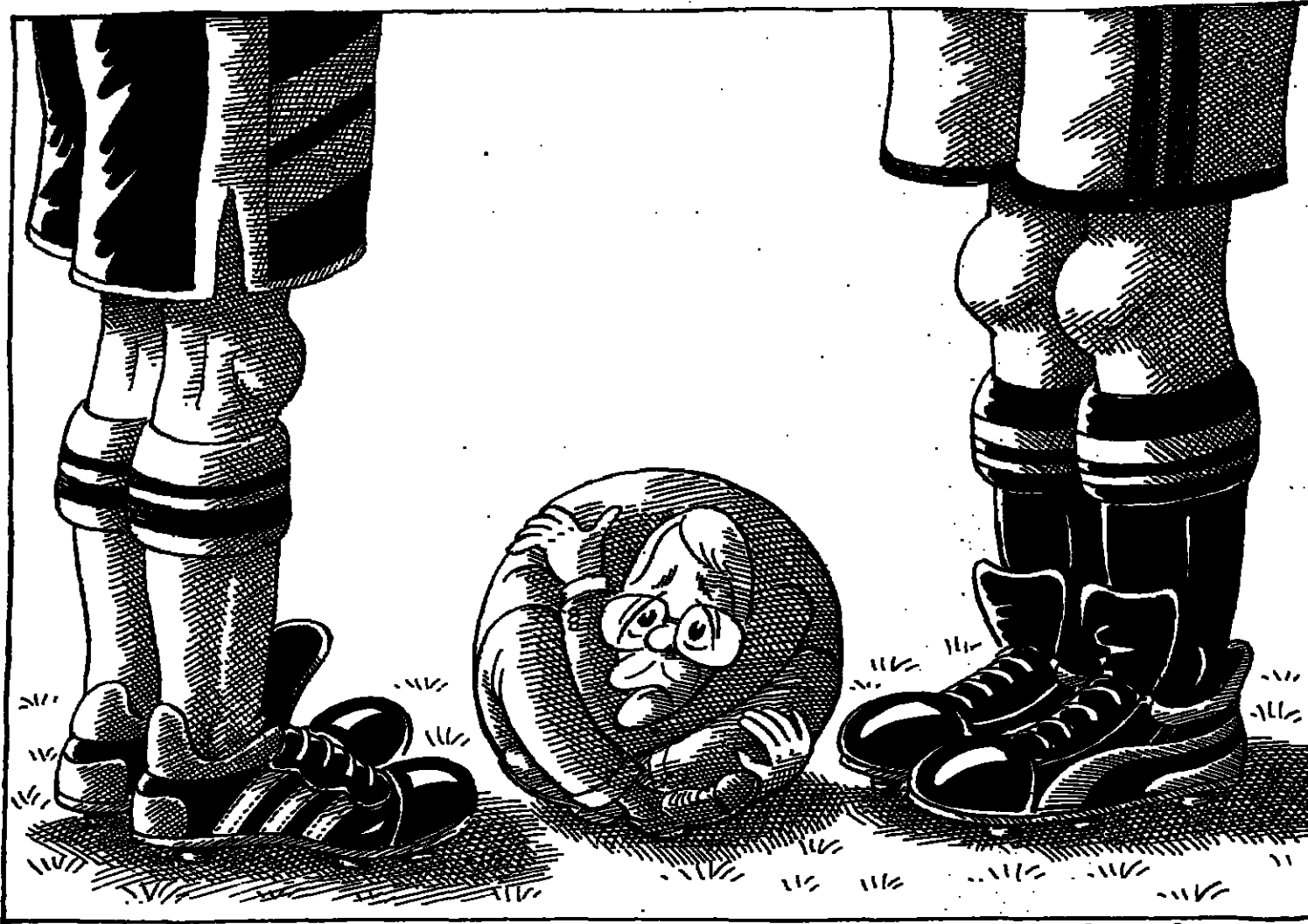
In order to understand what is going on here, with both the teachers' unions and the big bruisers who are determined to hang on to the levers in the Labour party, it is worth analysing Mr Edmonds' words in some detail. His ominous reminder, "We pay for the party," was followed immediately by what seemed a puzzling *non sequitur*: "We have a right to democracy in the party, because never forget it is our party too."

An observer not accustomed to the specialised meanings given to words in these circles, might have thought to himself: "But I thought it was democracy that John Smith's reforms were all about. Every member of the party having an equal vote is as democratic as could be, isn't it?"

Clearly what Mr Edmonds means by democracy is quite different from what is meant by that word in ordinary parlance. His concept includes casting votes at Labour party conference on behalf of tens of thousands of people who are not even Labour voters, let alone members. But the earlier parts of his speech give us some insight into his justification for this peculiar view: "There are three million unemployed, homeless and poverty on a scale not known for a generation, and the health service is falling apart. And this is the moment when Labour politicians have decided to attack us." The cynical might suspect Mr Edmonds of using the issues of unemployment, poverty and homelessness to obscure a blatant tussle for power within the Labour party. And given the observation this week by Nigel de Gruchy of the NASUWT that the success of the school tests boycott "is another factor contributing to the air of gross incompetence which dogs Mr Major," they might even imagine that the teachers' unions are playing power politics under the guise of educational principle.

There is a problem here far bigger (and older) than the embarrassments of government and Opposition at the moment: it is a long-term failure on the part of some of the most powerful groups in the country to grasp the point of democratic government. What teaching unions are saying when they defy the law is that their tradition of professional sovereignty transcends the right of a mandated government to inspect their procedures: they believe that the education system belongs to them (in just the way that the Labour party belongs to its affiliated unions).

The notion that the democratic process is simply a later-day intrusion on hereditary loyalties and sectional interests has rendered this country nearly ungovernable in the past. It looks as if it may soon do so again.



OUR NATIONAL GAME

Peter Brookes 11/11/93

## The awakened heart

Whatever the follies of biographers and film-makers, E.M. Forster's novels stand the test of re-reading

I think it is time to make the writing of biography a criminal offence. Perhaps it should not be completely abolished, but certainly there must be no more about the lately dead: let us say nobody more recent than the Venerable Bede or, at a pinch, Charles the Bald. Would any MP, lucky in the ballot for private members' bills, care to put forward such a measure?

I speak with some impatience, and I speak it with the new biography of E.M. Forster before me. Its very title gives the game away: *Morgan*, it is called, presumably to give an air of chumminess, an air that might make people think that the author (Nicola Beauman) knew him, which she didn't. The magisterial two-volume *Life* by P.N. Furbank (who did) was published in 1978, a model of scrupulous and comprehensive understanding — understanding, that is, of the man and his writing. Mrs Beauman has not written a bad book, and has found out several things that Furbank did not know; moreover, a good many of her speculations are not ridiculous. But apart from her book's superfluity, the Furbank biography having been written, she seems to think that in a biography of Forster, the number of his homosexual lovers is more important than a thorough examination of the novels. This task she decides to avoid, and announces as much in one of the most ghastly excuses for not working harder I have ever been sick over.

But do I know where I'm going, the biographer asks herself, the moment having come when somehow — but how? she must convey, not merely precise, the plot, and at the same time try and convey why, in her, this is one of the most perfect novels of the twentieth century, aware that if she uses hyperboles like these her ever-vigilant husband will write "truly wonderful" in the margin and she will realise that yes, she has gone over the top. But then what vocabulary will do? Quoting would do. But that great slab of prose centred on the page might re-appear.

I dare say it would. If my readers, not least Mrs Beauman, detect a rare disturbance in my normal equanimity, it is because Forster has a place in my life that no other modern author even comes near to filling. Because Forster completed only six novels, and one of these he would not allow to be published until he was dead, it is thought that his oeuvre was limited to that handful of books and an occasional feuilleton in *The Listener*.

Well, I have 18 volumes of his work on my shelves. (One of these is the first edition of *Pharos and Pharillon*: I dare say it might bring me a tidy sum, considering that it was first published in an impression of only 900 copies.)

Biography, essays, short stories, bits and pieces of fiction, travel, even a guidebook (to Alexandria) — these belie the picture of a lazy author. Yet, of course, it is the novels that made his reputation, a reputation that no attack, no denigration, no misunderstanding, no envy (there's a lot of that), no patronising, no nit-picking (there's a lot of that) can diminish. And the reason he survives, and will survive indefinitely, is that he says, and even more implies, things that no other novelist does. If Forster had not written that handful of novels, there would be a hole in our literature, and we would be indefinitely puzzled as to what was missing.

First, let us examine the quietness of Forster, that seeming unwillingness to raise his voice because he can make his point without doing so. It is an illusion, a huge illusion, and I shall illustrate it first from one of his book reviews. The book was R.W. Chapman's scholarly edition of *Jane Austen's Letters*, in one of which Austen is writing to her sister Cassandra, giving her all the local news, one item being this:

Mrs Hall, of Sherborne, was brought to bed yesterday of a dead child, some weeks before she expected, owing to a fright. I suppose she happened un-awares to look at her husband.

Forster raises his voice instantly: "Did Cassandra laugh? Probably, but all we catch at this distance is the whinnying of harpies."

We have struck the Forsterian tone at once: it is the human voice in its most humanist form. Austen's joke, to anyone with enough imagination to understand Mrs Hall's feelings, is disgusting, and *inexcusably* disgusting. And I picked the right adverti-

throughout Forster's novels, there are things that cannot be excused. The great confrontation scene in *The Longest Journey* (flawed, but his masterpiece) is almost a definition of the inexcusable, as is the confrontation scene in *A Passage to India* in the courtroom, prepared for by the scene in the club with the "Turtions and Burtons".

Nor is that steady, gently ruthless voice stilled merely because the two slighter novels — *A Room with a View* and *Where Angels Fear to Tread* — do not encompass such dramatic scenes. Again and again in both

books, which in any case have their own dramas (what about the scene in which Gino, in *Angels*, tortures Philip with his broken arm?), the quiet voice, ready at a moment's notice to be raised, is there, watchful and never despairing.

But Forster is no martinet: how could he be, when the other half of his philosophy is based upon what he calls "the unawakened heart"? Like Dickens, he strews his stage with villains, but — again like Dickens — a closer inspection reveals that the real, irredeemable villains are astonishingly few. There are horrible people in those books: Herbert, in *The Longest Journey*, Cecil Vyse in *A Room with a View*, Henry in *Howards End*, but all of these, ghastly as they are, are suffering from the same affliction: the unawakened heart. Stephen, in *The Longest Journey*, is practically illiterate and absurdly childish, yet

... Stephen is a bully: he drinks, he knocks one down but he would sooner die than take money from people he did not love... Why did he come here? Because he thought you would love him, and was ready to love you.

That is the awakened heart speaking, as it speaks in Mrs Moore, less simply but more deeply, and with Forster there is no possibility of confusing the unawakened with the enlightened.

I have read these books over and

over again, and I cannot tire of them. After his death in 1970, his reputation went down, a very frequent occurrence among writers of every kind. But Forster could not stay down: they are in Penguin now, a good sign. Of course, for those who loved his work, he never disappeared.

Forster's milieu have all changed utterly; imagine, today, the Italian boarding-house in *A Room with a View*, the moral code in *Howards End*, the terror of being homosexual in *Maurice*, above all, the change in India, which Forster would not recognise. Yet there is no sense of jarring, of puzzlement, of quaintness: so powerful was Forster's deceptively deep-rooted planting that the fruit is still there to be plucked. More than any books I know, I can come back to these any number of times and still find them fresh; and more than fresh — true.

Good wine needs no bush. Though I began in technicality today, with the news of an otiose new biography of Forster, by the time I had gone through the books in writing this, I realised that even the best as well as the worst of books about him (I have at least a dozen, not counting the two biographies) cannot touch him. Nor do we need to touch him, by which I mean that no exegesis, biography, interpretation, "Write short notes on", or even our old friend "Discuss" can improve or spoil the novels themselves.

Yet I still think that biography should be abolished. Biography dismantles an artist, examines him, and puts the bits together again, not invariably in the right places. Of all people, Forster defies such examination. How does biography help us to understand Ansell or Mr Beebe or Aziz or Margaret Schlegel, let alone understand what Forster himself meant by them, if indeed he knew himself? We interpret, consciously or unconsciously, his words, but who will be so certain as to interpret the artist's soul? Not I: I may find myself identifying with Ansell, but that doesn't mean that Forster had ever heard of me. (Actually, he had: I have a charming letter from him which I treasure.)

It doesn't matter. There are six novels by a man of undoubted genius, and we can go on reading them indefinitely. No, I don't know why he stopped writing novels: perhaps he was sick of people asking him what they meant.

## Excuse of last resort?

Peter Riddell  
on the calls for  
an independent  
central bank

So John Major and Margaret Thatcher do, after all, have something in common. They have both rejected proposals from their Chancellors to make the Bank of England independent. It is becoming a habit for former Chancellors to reveal their support for an independent central bank in their resignation statements. Nigel Lawson did so in 1989 and Norman Lamont unexpectedly disclosed his backing in almost identical terms on Wednesday.

As Michael Howard said yesterday, there seems to be something about the Treasury that causes ministers who spend a long time there to come to the conclusion that the best solution to our problems is to hand them over to someone else, an independent central bank which is not democratically accountable.

It is tempting to regard ex-Chancellors who urge such new institutional arrangements as being like permanent secretaries who take up the cause of open government on their retirement, or aged libertines who denounce sex in their dotage. Both Lord Lawson and Mr Lamont stressed low inflation, and the latter's principal undisputed success was bringing inflation below 2 per cent. That record can be turned round to argue, as Mr Major has, that an independent central bank would not have brought inflation down any more rapidly.

Support for an independent central bank cuts across left-right lines. It is backed not just by advocates of closer European integration, as a step towards monetary union, but also by monetarists who want to take interest-rate decisions out of politics. The recurrent enthusiasm of Chancellors has more to do with the difficulties of holding down inflation in a democracy than with any Euro-enthusiasm. The memoirs of Lord Healey as well as Lord Lawson record struggles with prime ministers over politically unpopular increases in interest rates.

A Tory policy document of 1977 favoured "a more independent role for the Bank of England". This meant freedom of speech rather than freedom of action. But even this modest proposal was dropped from the 1979 manifesto. Tensions between the Treasury and the Bank, with its nominal subservience as implementer of policy, increased during the 1980s, when monetary policy was central to government strategy.

After discussions within the Treasury in 1988 (from the which the Bank was excluded), Lawson sent Mrs Thatcher a memorandum urging an independent central bank with features of models in both Germany (its anti-inflationary goal) and America (its accountability to the legislature). He saw this as a means of "locking a permanent anti-inflationary force into the system". The Bank would be obliged to preserve the value of the currency and would be responsible for setting short-term interest rates and monetary targets, while the government would retain responsibility for the exchange rate. Governors would appear regularly before a special Commons select committee.

Lord Lawson records that he "was disappointed but not surprised" to find Mrs Thatcher "wholly unresponsive". This was ostensibly because the time was not right. But he believes she was "quite incapable of accepting the possibility that there might be another government some day. While she was there, she was not going to give up the levers of power which the control of interest rates represented".

Mr Major rejected a similar proposal from Mr Lamont because of "the need for accountability to Parliament for decisions on monetary policy matters". Mr Lamont sought a half-way house, introducing a quarterly report from the Bank on progress towards a specific new inflation target and giving Eddie George, the incoming Bank governor, a public remit that "his responsibility should be to support the government in our determination to bring about a lasting reduction in the rate of inflation".

That is a classic British compromise in which the Bank has a publicly greater say — as Mr George showed this week in warning against assuming inflation to be dead — but the ultimate decisions lie in Downing Street. Calls for greater independence will not go away, even though Britain has opted out of the monetary union provisions of the Maastricht Treaty, which require such a change. Frank Vibert of the European Policy Forum has recently urged a move towards the model adopted in New Zealand three years ago. This would transform the inflation target into a contract between the government and the governor of the Bank, would provide penalties (dismissal) if the goal is missed, and would allow for a formal override in emergencies.

The question turns on whether politicians should be directly answerable for such crucial decisions affecting voters. There may be an inherent bias in democracies in favour of inflation. But it is for politicians, not bankers, to persuade voters to resist such pressures. As Mr Howard argued yesterday, "we are elected to take tough decisions including fixing the level of interest rates".

## What's afoot, Ken?

HE MAY say brazenly that he is no City man, but our portly new Chancellor is quietly confident about future dealings with the pin-striped businessmen of the Square Mile as he pads through the Treasury in his Hush Puppies. He has a trick in reserve.

When he moved to the Treasury from the Home Office, it wasn't just the calculator that he packed into his ministerial suitcase. Clarke also put in a pair of smart black leather brogues, to be flourished only on special occasions.

In the past, he has worn them when going to see the Queen at Buckingham Palace in his role as a privy counsellor. They have been slipped on for black-tie dinners too, and will doubtless be put through their paces when Clarke makes the Mansion House speech, the biggest in the City calendar.

After Major's mauling, Clarke may yet wear them for another visit to Buckingham Palace. But Peter Mandelson, the Labour MP for Harlepool who was mocked by Clarke at the dispatch box on Wednesday for being flashy, is unimpressed. "So Citizen Ken is not quite the man of the people we all thought. He boasts about being

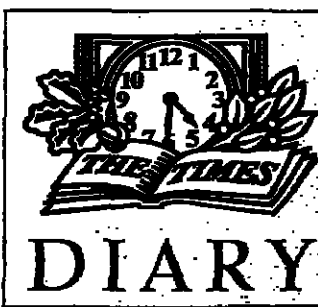
one of the people, but really is a fully paid-up member of the establishment. Perhaps he should take some advice from me on sartorial elegance. And manners."

### Second Wind

THE WATERY exploits of Mole, Badger, Water Rat and Toad are to be continued in a sequel to Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows*. Written by children's author William Horwood, *The Willows in Winter* will be published by HarperCollins in October. And Toad, whom Grahame declared to be reformed — "indeed an altered Toad" — by the end of his epic, reverts to his wicked old ways and flies an aeroplane.

Horwood grew up on the Chertwell in Oxford, one of the rivers which inspired Grahame's classic, and he believes Grahame would have approved: "I know he said he did not want to do a sequel, but I believe that if his son had not died and he had enjoyed grandchildren he would have written one."

Sir Kingsley Amis, who enjoyed the original, is not so sure. "The idea of a sequel gives me feelings of slight boredom," he says.



London's South Bank Centre has apologised to the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra for a brutal performance by two of its staff during a concert last week. As Stephen Hough, the RPO's celebrated pianist for the evening, was waiting in the wings to play a Liszt concerto, a punch-up between two technicians broke out in front of him. Professional to the core, Hough gave a flawless performance.

### New angles

WITH his kitchen cabinet under fire, will John Major retrench by boosting the East Anglia mafia, the all-powerful clique of MPs which advises him? Sir Anthony Grant, MP for Cambridgeshire South West, is tipped to become a "super parliamentary private secretary" to the prime minister. The job

in hand? A steady grip on the tiller at No 10.

Within minutes of Norman Lamont's devastating speech, Grant was wheeled out by the party high command to rally support for Major on most television news broadcasts. As a former minister who entered the Commons in 1964, he is impeccably qualified; more importantly, perhaps, he is an officer of the 1922 Committee, and is respected on both sides of the party.

But, most significantly, his constituency is next door to Major's Huntingdon home, which would admit him to the close circle of political friends who come from East Anglia and Cambridgeshire: Richard Ryder, John MacGregor, Gillian Shephard, Baroness Blatch, and John Gummer. "I am a wholehearted supporter of the prime minister," he confides. That must leave the field clear then.

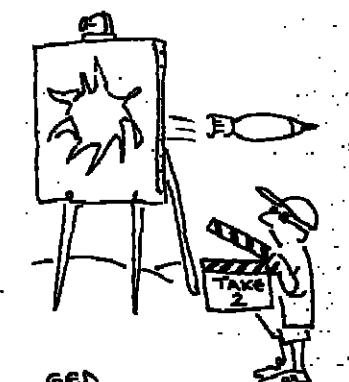
### What's the use?

IS THERE no end to the ambition of Andrew Lloyd Webber? Not content with writing the world's most successful musicals or saving Canaletto for the nation, the composer's Really Useful Group has become involved in radio. The theatre company is backing Radio Barking, the ludicrously titled group of comedians and celeb-

rities which has submitted an application to start a 24-hour comedy station. Lloyd Webber joins fellow funders Melvyn Bragg and Douglas Adams, the millionaire author of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, and has understandably been welcomed with open arms. "He's proving to be really useful," says a droll John Lloyd, chief executive of Radio Barking and creator of *Spitting Image*. He has assembled an all-star cast of comedians to support the station, so let's hope his jokes improve.

### Paint it flak

THE war artist working side by side with British troops in the firing line needs steeled nerves than



in our technological age, as Peter Howson, the *Times* war artist in Bosnia, has discovered. In the horrific battlefield at Travnik, Howson has been encumbered not only by flak-jacket, helmet, canvas and painting materials: he is also weighed down by a large television crew filming a documentary for the BBC's 40 Minutes series.

Howson is, of course, happy to oblige the crew's whims but, with bullets whistling overhead, he finds the demands somewhat nerve-racking. "It is very difficult to do four or five takes in the middle of a battle," he says. "To do all this and watch out for my life is very difficult." But Howson, a former soldier himself, denies reports that he is pulling out. "I have no intention of leaving," he says.

The curse of Peter Mayle? Barry Hanson, the head of television drama at BBC Pebble Mill and the man responsible for the much-maligned adaptation of *A Year in Provence*, is changing jobs. He is to become a producer in London, a move insiders say was precipitated by the ill-fated series. A BBC spokesman denies this: "His new title does not sound very grand, but it is not a demotion. He regards *A Year in Provence* as a good series well done. We are very sorry to see him go. He was a good friend."





## HOW NOT TO HELP THE UN

Tinkering with the security council is premature and foolish

Bill Clinton's campaign pledge to expand the membership of the United Nations Security Council was ill conceived and should have been quietly shelved. Instead — and without obtaining prior agreement on this contentious subject from the other four "veto powers" — his UN representative, Madeleine Albright, has publicly committed the US to put forward detailed proposals later this month to add Japan and Germany to the council's permanent membership. Demands for similar status for India, Nigeria, Brazil and possibly Indonesia will inevitably follow. Another unseemly trans-Atlantic argument looms, and to no good purpose.

Ms Albright insists that America will not "sacrifice the council's new-found effectiveness on the altar of reform". Nothing is more calculated to have precisely that effect. Mr Clinton should have paused to reflect that as recently as 1985, the UN's collective security function was almost dead; the last discussion of security council reform, between 1983 and 1985, was a desperate attempt to find remedies for its loss of authority. The first true sign that five-power co-operation was more than an ephemeral conjunction dates back only to 1987, when they jointly drafted resolution 598 on ending the Iran-Iraq war.

Even in the post-Cold War world, coaxing China (which owes its permanent status to an earlier mistaken decision by President Roosevelt) not to use its veto is already difficult enough. The council's failures over Bosnia should counsel more caution: the UN has some way to go before it sheds its image as a theatre for phoney decisions.

The American argument is that Germany and Japan are great powers and that the council must represent the "real world". So it should: and in the real world, Germany and Japan are giants hobbled in the exercise of military power. Their postwar constitutions prohibit the use of their armed forces for purposes other than self-defence or, in Germany's case, purposes outside the Nato area. Their people overwhelmingly approve, and so strong is this pacific sentiment that both governments would have difficulty not

only in contributing forces to collective security but, as was confirmed by the whole tenor of their domestic debates during the Gulf war, in voting for any decision to use force. Any projection of Japanese military power would, moreover, generate considerable anxiety among its Asian neighbours.

France and Britain already contend with complaints about two permanent seats for West Europe. Instead of agreeing to add Germany, other governments could well insist on a single European Community seat. Both in Bosnia and the Gulf, the EC has been sharply divided on military action: a common defence policy is years away. America's reforming zeal would be better directed towards the neglected potential of Article 23, which says that the nonpermanent members should be elected on the basis of their capacity to contribute to collective enforcement: a criterion that would certainly disqualify two of the current council members, Djibouti and Cape Verde.

Behind Washington's proposals may lie worry about the willingness of Germany and Japan to pay the collective security piper if they cannot call the tune. Revision of the Charter is risky but if the Americans are intent on it, they could consider creating an Economic Security Council with prominent roles for Germany and Japan. Such a body could give high-level political direction to joint efforts to deal with international migration, the environment, drugs trafficking or the relief of major disasters.

The permanent five-veto power under the Charter was meant to reflect their military power and presumed readiness to combine their forces to contain conflicts — using individual influence where appropriate, concerting strategy, jointly enforcing peace where persuasion failed. Security council offers to mediate were expected to carry weight with governments because it could and would impose, and enforce, penalties against the recalcitrant. This vision is only now, and imperfectly, beginning to be realised. The old rule about horses for courses should not be ignored.

## AN INESCAPABLE DUTY

Britain must protect Hong Kong's non-Chinese minority

Ever since opening negotiations with China on Hong Kong, British ministers have repeatedly insisted that the touchstone of British policy is to protect the rights, freedoms and prosperity of the people it will hand over to Chinese rule in July 1997. No right is more basic than the right to a nationality. This week's flat refusal by Michael Howard, the home secretary, to consider full British passports for a small number of Hong Kong citizens who face the terrifying prospect of becoming stateless shows scant regard for this principle.

In 1997, the mass of Hong Kong's people will automatically become nationals of China, a country from which many fled as refugees. They have had no say in this decision; most of them will have no escape. But around 7,000 people in Hong Kong are Eurasian, White Russian or Asians from the Indian subcontinent. Because they are not ethnic Chinese, China's race-based law gives them no automatic right to Chinese nationality even if they wish to take it. The Chinese government has suggested that their choice will be to stay in Hong Kong as stateless residents or to apply for "special" Chinese passports whose status has not been defined; and has advised them to appeal to London to grant them British passports.

The ball is thus squarely in Mr Howard's court. These people have lived in Hong Kong for generations and have few or no ties elsewhere. Most of them are in the civil service, in the professions and in business, and want to stay if it is safe to do so. If Britain does not offer them passports they will find themselves in a legal no-man's land: with no nation, no passport, no home and no rights.

In 1985, the British government acknowledged their special vulnerability and prom-

ised to protect them. Beyond a vague promise to look sympathetically on the case of any individual actually driven out of Hong Kong, it has yet to honour this pledge. In legal terms, they have been offered no more than the token status of British Overseas Citizen, available to all Hong Kong residents. This does not confer the right of abode in Britain, or to British consular protection in Hong Kong; and will expire with the third generation.

Hong Kong's Legislative Council, which sent a delegation to see Mr Howard, unanimously favours full British passports for these people. Its appeal is supported by the Commons foreign affairs committee and all-party group on race relations. Mr Howard, worried that Britain's ethnic minorities would protest against Hong Kong "queue-jumping" and that a precedent would be set for other British Overseas Citizens, sees "insurmountable obstacles". This is wrong: statelessness, the issue here, is a peril faced by none of these other categories.

For Britain to refuse would also be a violation of its obligations under the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. Article 10 obliges any state involved in the transfer of territory "to secure that no person shall become stateless as a result". The government's refusal, even after Tiananmen, to restore British passports to Hong Kong's people as an ultimate insurance against gross Chinese oppression is already a betrayal of this country's historical responsibilities. It would compound error to make light of the sanctity of treaties: for this is the rock on which British assurances to Hong Kong have rested since the signature of the 1984 Sino-British Declaration. Mr Howard should reconsider.

## RATTING ON ANIMALS

Misanthropy does no favour to fish or to beasts of the field

The British are given to anthropomorphism, deriving much innocent pleasure from treating their animals as surrogate humans. Without this imaginative tradition, Pooh bear might never have been invented; nor would the nation be so committed to protecting animals against cruelty. Yet there are times when this pervasive notion becomes an insult to human intelligence and to the dignity of animals themselves.

Yesterday the courts heard two cases of alleged cruelty to animals. One concerned two tropical fish alleged to have been abandoned by their owner; the other a rat which was left with no water and little food for six days and later died of pneumonia. The former case cost more than £8,000; the latter involved no fewer than five court hearings. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals resolutely claims that the rat had suffered "like a human" and had even become "extremely depressed".

By any standards, this is vexatious litigation. The RSPCA should prosecute where there is evidence of severe neglect or abuse; but in such minor cases, where there is no hint of sadism, the society's role is to reprimand, and to teach the irresponsible pet owner the skills of animal care. To bring every such incident to court reduces the RSPCA's credibility and devalues its other

remarkable work. Its recent poster campaign demanding stricter penalties for serious offenders is an outstanding example. So are the activities of its undercover squads which have tracked down many of the most despicable dogfighting groups.

To treat animals as if they were litigants or human victims of crime is a sign not of enlightenment but of regression. In the middle ages, the beasts of the field were routinely tried for crimes and heresies: a bear might be hanged for its Catharism or a group of lice tried for burrowing into a bishop's chair. To attribute human emotions to a rat is no less absurd than to convict a bear of heresy. It trivialises the serious philosophical debate on "animal rights".

These cases are not just harmless comedy; they hint at a tendency towards mindless litigiousness. In his new book on political correctness, *Culture of Complaint*, Robert Hughes argues that America is being torn apart by a "victim culture" in which warring social groups seek "victim status" through litigation and other complaints procedures. The idea that every animal which dies is the victim of "species-ist" conspiracy has more to do with a debased vision of humanity than with advancing animal welfare. Animals deserve better than a political correctness which verges on misanthropy.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9QN Telephone 071-782 5000

### Low-income curb on legal aid

From Mr Peter Birks, QC

Sir, Mr Peter Davies (letter, June 8) wonders whether the government or the Lord Chancellor's Department realises that a woman such as his client, whose only income is £54 a week with no savings, is ineligible for basic legal aid and is asked to pay a contribution of £18.90 a month for the lifetime of her road accident claim. She was a passenger, so her claim will presumably succeed, with costs paid back to the legal aid fund.

The answer is that the Lord Chancellor himself certainly does realise. In his memorandum to the House of Commons home affairs committee (Fifth Report, Legal Aid: the Lord Chancellor's Proposals, March 9, 1993) he stated:

Some people will have to pay more by way of contribution for civil legal aid than they do now... It is important that people are aware of the financial consequences of actions they are taking.

In his oral evidence to the committee he said: "If people are assessed to have a contribution out of disposable income I say if they are not prepared as a matter of priority... to make that contribution to their case why should the taxpayer [who] may be of quite moderate means... be, in effect, compulsorily asked to contribute to the costs of another person who does not wish to make that payment themselves? I think [these]... are people who in the circumstances it is right not to help further [all emphasis mine]."

Perhaps, therefore, the government or the Lord Chancellor's Department will now suggest what items of weekly expenditure this 60-year-old widowed pensioner should forgo in order to have access to justice.

PETER W. BIRKS,  
Farrar's Building, Temple, ECA.  
June 8.

### Case for Rosyth

From the Earl of Perth

Sir, The commercial considerations for locating the submarine repair base at Rosyth or at Devonport appear roughly equal.

The political considerations are the possible short-term effects on a block of seats in the south-west of England versus the certain loss of most, if not all, the remaining Scottish seats — a betrayal long to be remembered and a crisis for the Union.

A further factor has not, I believe, been sufficiently weighed. Devonport would become the sole repair centre for capital ships and submarines for the British fleet; its destruction by an enemy would, at one blow, be the end of a still great maritime power.

Let us remember the old adage: "Never put all your eggs in one basket."

Yours truly,  
PERTH,  
House of Lords.  
June 8.

### Looking them up

From Mr Doré Silverman

Sir, This "getting to know you" field should spread (letters May 31, June 7). Why not follow up with *Who Isn't Who*, *Who ought to be Who*, *Who never will be Who*, *Who would love to be Who* and *Who used to be Who*?

Yours faithfully,  
DORÉ SILVERMAN  
(Editor, *The Critic*),  
Rebeck House,  
Bishops Avenue,  
East Finchley, N2.  
June 7.

### Own goal?

From Mrs Julie Sefton-Forbes

Sir, I see from a sports report (June 9) that the England football team are heavily escorted whenever they travel in the USA. The escort is provided by the Americans and consists of four motorcycle outriders, three Boston police cars and a helicopter.

The current state of our national team is such that nobody could believe they are a danger to any other team and wish to "noble" them. I can only conclude that the Americans are concerned over whether any of them try to defect and play for the host country.

Yours faithfully,  
JULIE SEFTON-FORBES,  
Fairfield Lodge,  
Salisbury Road,  
Blandford Forum, Dorset.  
June 10.

### Closing reactors

From the Chief Executive of Nuclear Electric

Sir, Nick Nuttall's report (earlier editions, June 3) about the National Audit Office report on decommissioning nuclear facilities is unbalanced in quoting only one of the expert advisers appointed by NAO. It is a pity that you did not also record the clear statement in the NAO report that its independent technical advisers concluded that our estimates for future costs are very cautious and may be open to substantial reductions.

It is also misleading to suggest that decommissioning costs are untied. The technology involved is not new or unproven and we have well-prepared engineering studies on the basis of

### Inadequacy of school test 'monster'

From the Chairman of the Headmasters' Conference and the President of the Girls' Schools Association

Sir, The Campaign for Real Education placed an advertisement (June 7) castigating the teachers' trade unions for refusing to implement the tests for 14-year-olds. As leaders of organisations whose member schools are known to be totally committed to regular testing as a vital part of the educational process, we write to deplore the attitudes expressed by the advertisement.

Several important issues are involved: the varied and incompatible uses to which the tests are to be put, the adequacy of the tests themselves, the balances between teacher assessment and external testing and between time, energy and money spent on teaching and on testing. The disastrous division of responsibility between the National Curriculum Council (curriculum) and the Schools Examination Assessment Council (testing) has resulted in the birth of a monster which has roused even the most conservative in the teaching profession to protest.

The brief given to Sir Ron Dearing, chairman designate of the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, indicates an understanding within government that substantial change is needed. It would have been an act of statesmanship to accept that, as a consequence, the credibility of testing this year was fatally flawed and to have made the tests voluntary. Had that happened, the extensive good will within the profession towards the properly ambitious aims of the government would not have been so sadly dissipated.

All engaged in the debate would do well to recognise that "real education" exists only in schools to which teachers give their full commitment. This they readily give when they accept the sense of what they are asked to do.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBIN WILSON,  
Chairman,  
Headmasters' Conference,  
JOAN JEFFERSON,  
President, Girls' Schools Association,  
Trinity School,  
Shirley Park, Croydon, Surrey.  
June 8.

From the Secretary of the Council for Educational Advance

Sir, Your leading article, "War in the classroom" (June 3), argued that

### Help for students

From Mr D. B. Welbourn, FENG

Sir, More than 40 years ago, when Dr R. W. Parnell was the first medical officer at Oxford University, he published work in *The Lancet*, and I believe elsewhere, showing that the proportion of undergraduates needing help was of the same order as the suicide figures which you quote in your article of May 24, "Death among the dreaming spires".

I also recall from my own undergraduate years at Cambridge (1934-7) that in one of those years there were four suicides, destroyed by religious doubt. Cambridge then was of course far smaller than Oxford is today; and we did not take drugs.

I am disturbed that your article may suggest to parents and to undergraduates that something has gone wrong recently, and that "they" are not caring enough about undergraduate problems. Perhaps you could look at the whole problem of suicide in this age group and publish a reasoned instead of an alarmist article. The problem has always been too serious to treat as you have treated it.

Yours truly,  
D. B. WELBOURN,  
4 Amhurst Court,  
Grange Road, Cambridge.

### Faults in childcare

From Mrs Susan Hay

Sir, Margot Norman's article, "High cost of neglecting mothers" (June 2), stated the case for a national childcare provision policy. European companies operating in the UK lead the field in terms of providing childcare for employees because they apply European employment practice. Our government has regularly refused "family-friendly" European recommendations.

Policy decisions on childcare are made at the Department of Health but the key to improved supply lies with the departments of the environ-

ment, education and employment as well as the Treasury.

In January the government issued a circular requiring local authorities to relax quality standards for care providers. It seems to be intent on deregulating this area.

The Employers for Childcare campaign, mentioned in the article, will need to overcome the likely government response of letting market forces deal with childcare entirely.

Yours sincerely,  
SUSAN HAY  
(Chair), Childcare Association,  
1 Floral Place,  
Northampton Grove, Islington, N1.  
June 3.

ment, education and employment as well as the Treasury.

Yours faithfully,  
KEITH EBBUTT,  
Secretary,  
Council for Educational Advance,  
2b Hillfield Road, NW6.  
June 6.

Resources will follow pupils into the successful ones, and the majority will be left worse off. By conflating concern for children's progress with choosing between schools, your article does education a disservice.

Yours faithfully,  
KEITH EBBUTT,  
Secretary,  
Council for Educational Advance,  
2b Hillfield Road, NW6.  
June 6.

### From Mr Victor Black

Sir, As the father of four who have recently gone, or are still going through the university examination system, may I suggest two fairly simple reforms.

Undergraduates receive remarkably little official help in organising their time and their work when they first enter university. The sudden transition from the structured and supervised life of school to the freedom of the student could be made easier by more guidance in the first weeks. Bad habits started then can take months to put right and many serious problems seem to arise in the first year.

I also believe that examinations are unduly concentrated. To sit two major examinations on the same day, sometimes for several consecutive days, may be convenient for the organisers but causes needless stress for the student.

A chance to relax and refocus between major tests would reduce the tension and avoid the injustice of a minor illness or the wrong time of the month for a girl, ruining the result of three or four years' good work.

Yours faithfully,  
VICTOR BLACK,  
Lower Farm House,  
Coln Rogers, Gloucestershire.  
June 4.

ment, education and employment as well as the Treasury.

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SUSAN HAY  
(Chair), Childcare Association,  
1 Floral Place,  
Northampton Grove, Islington, N1.  
June 3.

ment, education and employment as well as the Treasury.

Yours sincerely,  
ROBERT HAWLEY,  
Chief Executive,  
Nuclear Electric plc,  
Barnet Way, Barnwood,  
Gloucestershire.

Business letters, page 27

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

### Threat of cuts in arts budget

From the Artistic Director of the Royal Shakespeare Company

Sir, Britain's interdependent network of resident, touring, national, subsidised and non-subsidised theatre is a model to which all other countries aspire. The thought that we might voluntarily inflict on this prized and productive national asset such savage damage as Lord Palumbo forecasts in his letter to the heritage secretary, published in your Arts section (June 10), is incomprehensible to them.

In 1993 the Royal Shakespeare Company will be the standard-bearer for British theatre in Australia, Ireland, France, Holland, Hong Kong, Hungary, Japan, Switzerland and Taiwan — in addition to performing at our three theatres in Stratford-upon-Avon, two in London, two in Newcastle upon Tyne and in 42 other British towns and cities during the current season.

Our overseas cultural hosts are aghast and incredulous when we tell them about the implications of the proposed cuts. They have marvelled for years at the unique achievements of British theatre (of which, the welcome us as the representative), and at the fact that we have been able to produce such high artistic standards on so little subsidy.

As Lord Palumbo points out, the proposed 2 per cent reduction in next year's Arts Council budget could, for instance, entail the loss of council funding to 20 major regional theatres. Nobody can doubt the need to get the national budget under control: but Lord Palumbo and Peter Brooke need all the help we can give them to carry the message to the Treasury that the nation will be badly served by the infliction, for such a small sum of money, of desperate injury on a universally admired cultural and artistic asset.

Yours sincerely,  
ADRIAN NOBLE,  
Artistic Director,  
Royal Shakespeare Company,  
Barbican Theatre,  
Barbican Centre, EC2.  
June 10.

From the Chairman of the Royal Opera House

Sir, At the Royal Opera House we neither expect nor wish to be exempt from sensible constraints required by the country's wider economic needs. Indeed, through sacrifices, including job losses, and prudent management we earned a small surplus last year.

Even less would we wish our share of limited public resources to prejudice the work of regional arts companies — their ability to flourish is important to us, as ours is to them. It is the vitality of our collective endeavours which enhances the cultural reputation of our country, contributes substantially to the Exchequer and provides a huge public with enjoyment and spiritual refreshment, through broadcasts and education programmes.

These things matter, especially in troubled times. It would be madness to allow zeal for economy to strangle artistic achievement which is in truth one of the nation's greatest assets. The survival of our companies, the Royal Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet and Royal Opera, already in the balance, could be at stake if the projected government cuts to the arts were made a reality.

Yours faithfully,  
ANGUS STIRLING,  
Chairman, Royal Opera House,  
Covent Garden, WC2.

### Matter over mind

From Mr Andrew Wilton

Sir, I was sorry to see resistance to the new definition — and redefined — by your correspondents (letters, June 2, 9) without proper acknowledgment. The history and tenets of this interesting philosophical movement were first discussed, I believe, by the late Paul Jennings about 30 years ago.

Jennings told of the guru of resistance, Paul-Marie Ventre, and his precursors, the thinkers Freidegg, Heidenreich and Quenryuip. Pace your correspondent Mr Douglas Lowndes, the phenomenon of toast always falling butter-side down was specifically named as a characteristic resistanceist event.

It is particularly appropriate to reconsider resistanceism now, when a fascinating new exhibition at the Tate Gallery, "Paris Post War", explores the contemporary and parallel movement of existentialism. The show, incidentally, illustrates the crucial aesthetic significance of the idea of toast falling butter-side down.

Yours faithfully,  
ANDREW WILTON  
(Keeper of British Art),  
The Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1.

From Dr Stanley Solomons

Sir, A cardinal feature of resistanceism, aptly described by your correspondent Mr Michael Morris as the innate hostility of inanimate objects to human endeavour, is the more or less constant law of mutability.

This is well illustrated by the observation during a cycling tour of the Isle of Wight that all the uphill gradients were longer, steeper and more frequent than the downhill, and that this was so no matter in which direction one travelled.

Yours sincerely,  
S. SOLOMONS,  
165 West Heath Road, NW3.







result, presumably of  
they had eaten in the  
all doing well yester-  
e to return home.

Civic Hall, in the whole spirit in which it has carried through its forlornight—and one of the objects of the exhibition will benefit from the publicity which it has gained. On the whole, the Exhibition grounds showed little trace of having been the scene of a picnic by over 300,000 people on the day before. Some litter still lay in corners where it had been swept together, but many tons of newspaper and other rubbish had been carted away and the whole place was made creditably presentable. Sir Maynard Hedstrom and the Fiji Exhibition Committee held a reception at the Fiji Pavilion yesterday afternoon, when tea was served—and also khava, a native drink which is seductive, but has a horrid reputation. . . . The ten patients taken to the Willesden Hospital on Monday (out of the 60 or so who were more or less ill) suffering from what was diagnosed as a mild form of pneumonia were the only ones who unfortunately got something that they had eaten at the Exhibition, were all doing well yesterday and were able to return home.



## PORTABLE PHONES

## New lines set the business buzzing

The arrival of brand names such as Sony and Swatch in the mobile phone field means that the public can now choose a model of a familiar make. Prices are tumbling, too, but the market is a jungle.

There is much confusion about mobile communications — terms such as Band III, TACS, GSM, PCN and CT2 are tossed around with abandon, and customers in the market for a portable phone may be hard-pressed to choose the right service.

At present, most new users opt for conventional cellular phones, which offer virtually national coverage from the two existing networks, Cellnet and Vodafone.

Proof of the ripening market lies in two glossy magazines that specialise in nothing but mobile phones.

Consumer interest in communications on the move has never been greater; almost 2,000 customers a day are said

to be signing up for the new low-user tariffs on offer. These tariffs can be a bargain but only if customers are careful about the number of calls they make because the reduced annual subscription of £180, rather than the more usual £300, is compensated for by higher call charges.

Cellnet has connected about 130,000 domestic and small-business users since it started its low-user Lifetime service last autumn, and Vodafone has chalked up more than 85,000 on its similar Lowcall tariff.

In total, cellular subscribers now number 1.6 million. Growth in the last six months alone has been 20 per cent. Other services include GSM and telepoint, while PCNs

(personal communications networks) are to follow. GSM is a superior but more expensive type of cellphone offering higher quality speech and eventually promises the prospect of using the same phone abroad without problems. But implementation is still in its early stages.

At the other end of the scale, for people looking for a modest entry to the world of contactability on the move, the new PCNs promise a cheaper mobile phone service.

Service areas will be restricted initially but PCN represents a welcome extension of choice. Paging, the so-called "bleeper" with or without message display, is yet another choice.

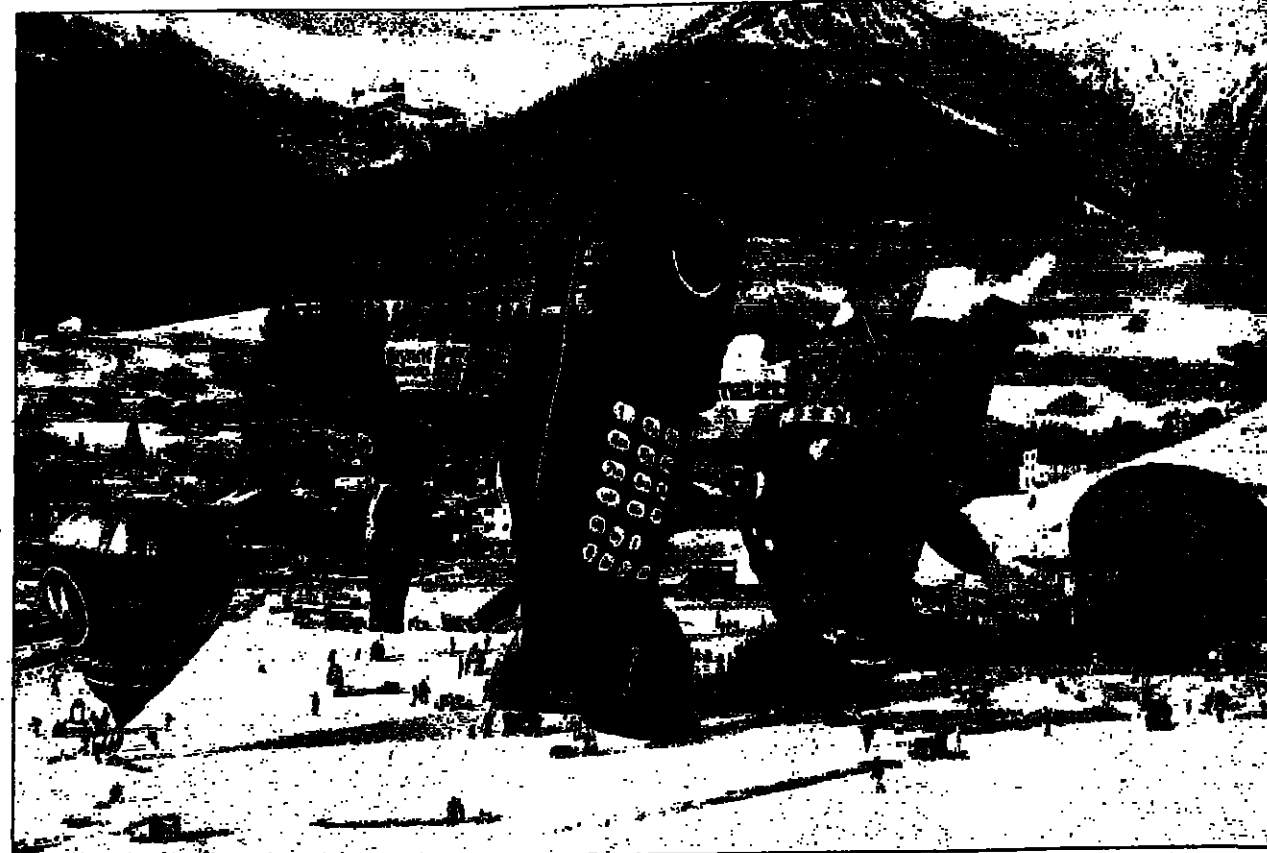
But for now it is the existing

big services with cellular radio that most people are selecting. Four out of five opt for hand portable phones rather than more high-powered phones that are built into and can only be used in a car. Both operators have gone to considerable effort to adjust their networks for these lower-powered and much smaller handsets.

Only users who expect to make a great many mobile calls in very remote areas away from a vehicle need consider a third option, a high-powered transportable phone.

Most hand portables can also be used inside cars, with an accessory kit, which includes a more sensitive external aerial and often a power booster.

With such a wide choice of models, how can the new user select the most suitable phone? Basic models have only basic features and usually the more you spend the more you get, with such extras as hands-free operation, for driving. How



Flying high: a hot-air balloon takes to the air to promote Motorola's Micro-TAC cellular pocket phone

easily they fit in the pocket will also be a factor.

Nobody should dream of buying one for £50 at a car-boot sale. Even if they work and are not stolen, they are

usually missing their instructions, charger and other vital accessories that could cost more to replace than buying a new phone.

Hand portables are now

small and light enough not to distort the shape of a suit or handbag — and styling may be a consideration. On the other hand, a phone that may have to rattle around in a plumber's toolkit needs to be more rugged and there are some extremely robust models on the market.

People who intend using the hand portable in a car should ensure that a suitable car kit is available, and those who need elaborate memory dialling and call-restriction facilities should check these features. Some phones also include a battery charger or a second long-life battery in their price.

Most phones are still sold below cost, and subsidised by the commission the service provider earns from the network for each new subscriber or — less likely — because the phone is old stock. Other factors affecting price are competition and the value of your custom, and of any related services such as insurance or maintenance that may be included in any deal.

Most phones cost about £250 but the features they offer vary widely, as do prices even for the same phone. Some dealers will offer you a used cellphone for nothing, but

there will inevitably be strings attached. The strings are important, because your outlay does not end with the cost of the phone.

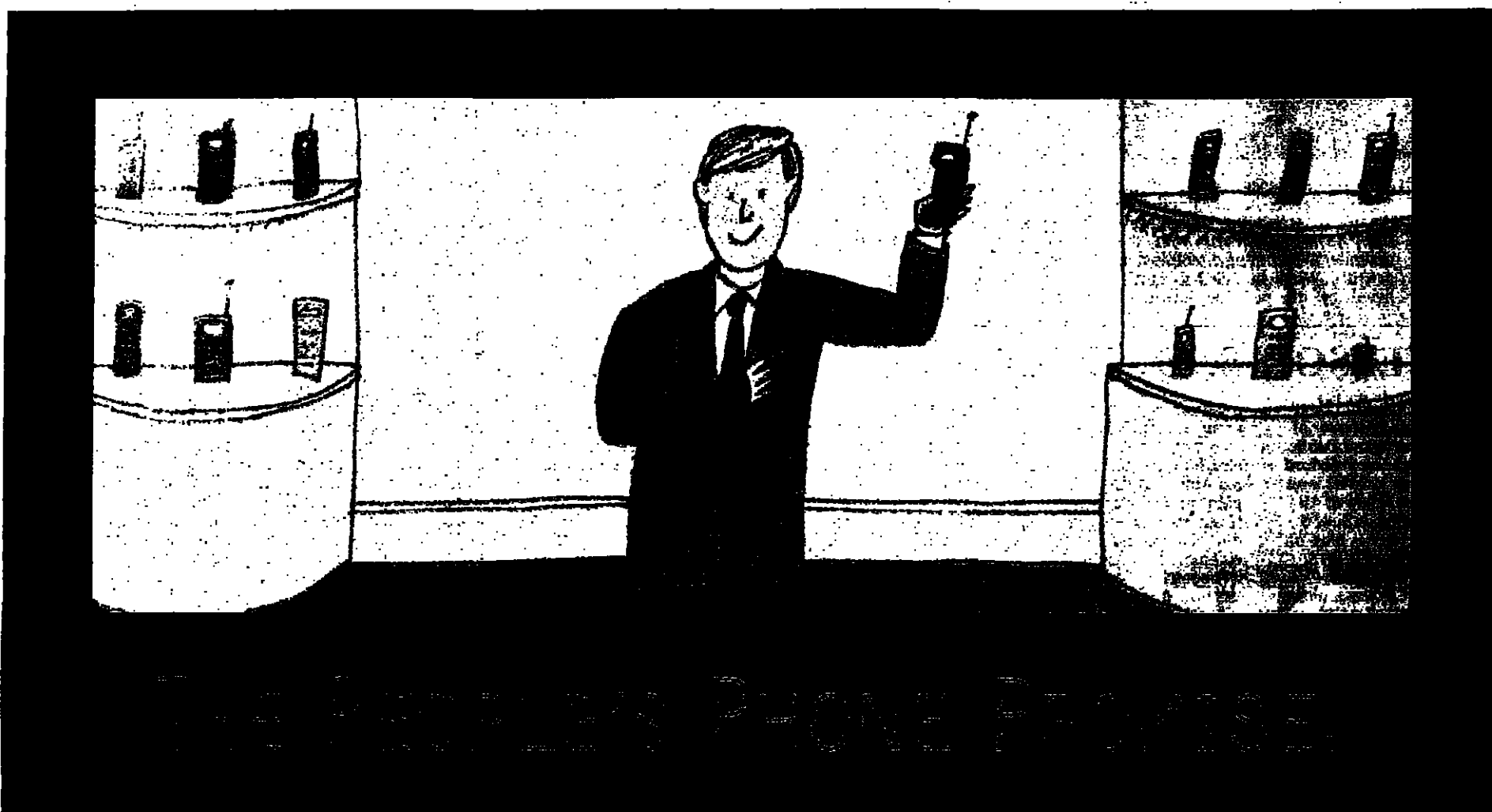
Air-time contracts — and the price of calls — can vary widely and some impose unattractive penalties for ending a contract.

Beware of the small print because it may conceal a charge for ineffective calls or a cheap-rate service that is only on offer between midnight and 6am.

The options are diverse because any mobile phone contract is not directly with the cellular network operator but through a so-called service provider or one of their retail agents.

Additionally, both Cellnet and Vodafone offer a choice of full-price or low-cost tariffs. The more enlightened service providers allow users to change tariff, even network, without penalty.

The good news is that prices are likely to fall further over the next year. Handsets could cost less than £200, and the planned new networks may offer cheaper calls and subscription charges, which will put mobile phones within the reach of more people.



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- ② We promise that every mobile phone we offer will be competitively priced.
- ③ We promise to recommend the airtime package that's most cost effective for you.
- ④ We promise our airtime prices will not increase.
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 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please return to The People's Phone, Dryden House, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200.

The People's Phone is a trade mark of Cellular Communications Corporation Plc.

## The link-ups go international

Global communications are giving customers a real choice of services

No matter what marketing people try to convince you of, a portable phone is just a device for making and receiving telephone calls while out and about. Battery lives may vary a little between different models as may the number of numbers that can be stored for abbreviated dialling. The services too have covered more or less the same areas, billing at the same intervals and charging the same tariffs. Now this is to change.

"We are entering a new era of personal communications, where people, not places, are linked," says Mel Ziziros, senior partner of MZA, a West Country telecommunications marketing consultancy. "More or less wherever we find ourselves we will have access to communications, be able to be contacted and be able to contact others."

This year at least two new types of network — GSM (global system for mobile communications) and PCN (personal communications network) — should be introduced. GSM, as its name implies, places the accent on international coverage. Already more than 30 countries have committed themselves to the introduction of GSM-based networks and most plan to let users from other countries use their phones

while travelling in theirs. These services should for the first time in more than a decade allow customers a real choice. They should enable the making of different packages — by how much or by where people want to use them, for example.

At the top of the scale the existing standard mobile services will try to change into feature-rich but costly services aimed at international business while at the bottom there may be a bargain basement service, perhaps restricted in their geographic coverage or in some other way aimed at getting people to use a portable telephone who otherwise would not have even considered it.

Users of these budget tariffs are also barred from making

international calls and some other features offered to customers of the standard services.

With so many services about to hit the market network operators will try to gain or maintain market share by tailoring each service to the needs of a particular group. The danger is that it may all become too complicated for new customers to get a grip on, thereby putting them off.

Cellnet says that one thing that has come out of its dual-pricing strategy — with one for low-call users and another for standard business type use — is the discovery that customers do appreciate simplicity.



Mel Ziziros: entering a new era

PETER PURTON

سكيا من الاميل





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Since the launch of our Lifetime™ service over 220,000 people have connected to Cellnet. That's more than any other UK mobile phone network. And that makes us one big happy family.

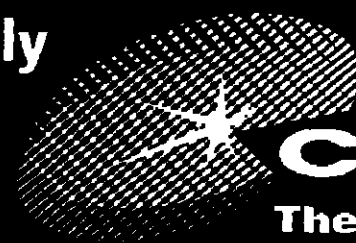
Thanks to Cellnet you have the peace of mind that you're always in touch with your family. If your car breaks down. If you miss the last bus home or if you just want to say hello.

Cellnet was the first to develop a choice of services to suit every customer's need whether for business or personal

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**cellnet**  
The nearest phone.

## 0800 21 4000

# Opening up the airwaves

In the next century there is every chance that children will be assigned a telecommunications number at birth which will accompany them throughout life. At play it will allow the child's whereabouts to be tracked by parents; at school it will allow access to a range of interactive multimedia educational programmes.

At work it will be the main means of communicating with colleagues, clients, suppliers, and so on, while at leisure it will allow pizzas to be delivered, films to be called up and viewed and bank payments to be made.

To some this may seem like a dream, to others more like a nightmare. But technically at least, it is a very real prospect. And it may not take until the next century for it to become reality.

Some elements of personal communications can be implemented on the ordinary fixed telephone system. So-called intelligent networks, for instance, allow people to be given personal numbers which allow them to make or receive calls on any telephone using their own number and to pay for them on their own bill as if it were their own telephone.

For most people, however, this new personal communications era is intimately linked with mobile communications. Cordless telephones were only introduced in the early 1980s but in the developed world they are now by far the most popular form of second tele-

**New technology is providing information freedom, says Peter Purton**

phone at home and are starting to move into the office. Mobile telephones have actually been with us since the 1950s, but they were given a considerable boost in the 1980s by the widespread introduction of cellular radio networks.

These systems use computer power to track mobiles, allowing the same radio frequencies to be used over and over again by assigning different sets of frequencies to different areas.

The net result is that far more users can be supported by far fewer frequencies, making such systems both more economical and allowing a greater number of users.

So-called personal communications networks (PCNs) take the principles of cellular a step further. Instead of achieving a usage density of around 800 users a square kilometre, PCN operators believe they can double that number by using higher frequencies and by making the size of cells smaller.

Digital technology — with its higher reliability, better quality and improved prospects for information compression — is also creeping into

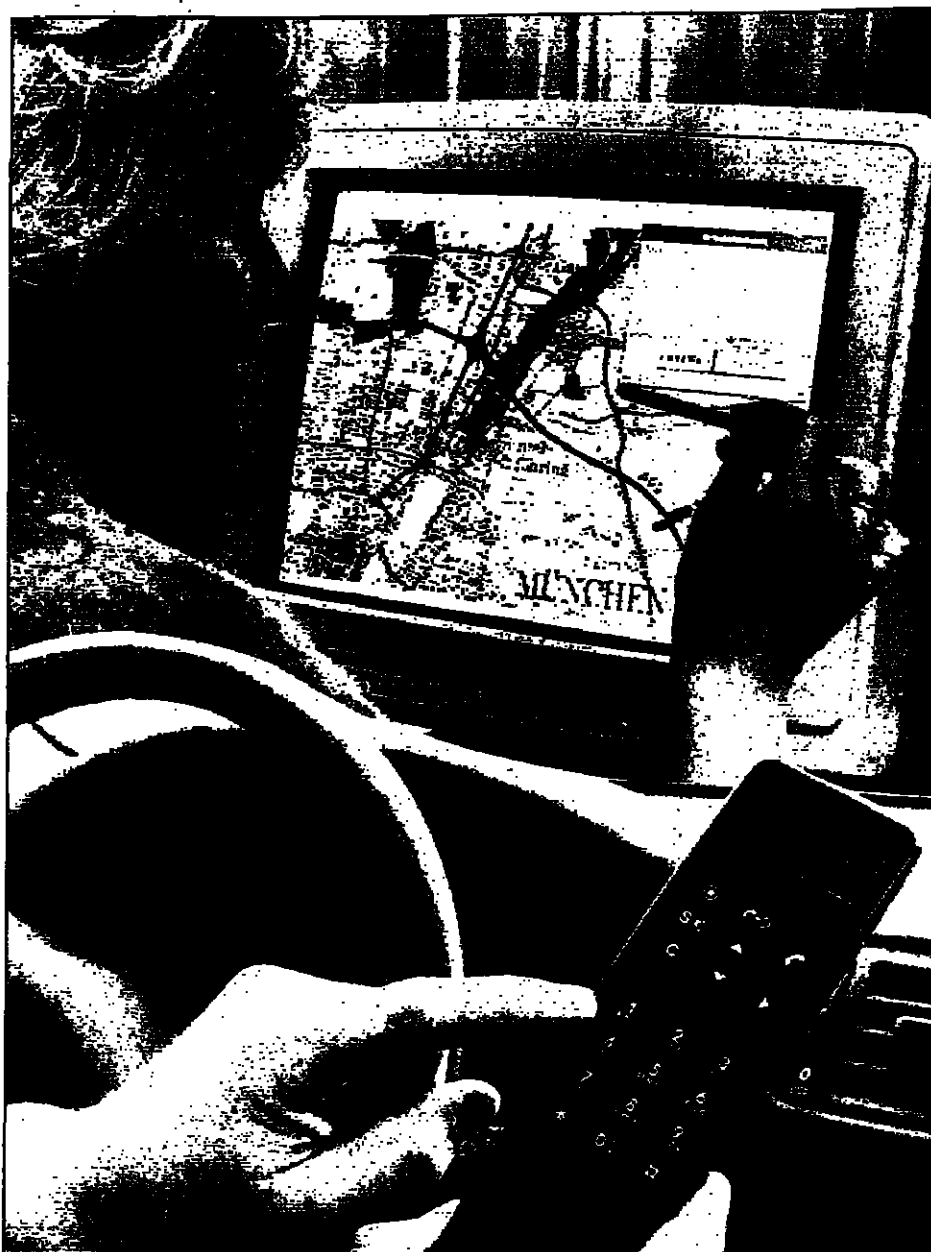
mobile telephones. It promises another advantage — better support of non-voice communications.

The digital system GSM, for example, incorporates its own messaging facility that allows users of mobile telephones to receive text messages which can be shown on a liquid crystal display. Soon GSM mobile phones will also be available with small alphanumeric keypads allowing them to send text messages as well.

Of more immediate benefit is likely to be the transfer of data over the airwaves. Already there are devices available which allow computers or dedicated data terminals to communicate over mobile telephone networks. There are also dedicated data networks already deployed for such applications as controlling and managing public transport or freight.

With digital technology, however, wireless data communications is assuming a new dimension. DECT — the Digital European Cordless Telecommunications standard being promoted by the EC — is being used to support cordless local area networks linking computers. Not only can such technologies simplify the installation of computer networking but they are particularly useful in the era of laptop and notebook computers and the pocket-sized personal communications that are predicted to become mass market items in a few years.

It has the potential for



Looking ahead: future mobile phone services may offer traffic directions

combining not only voice and data, but eventually also video, on to a pocket-size terminal. In the era of personal communications, the distinction between wireless and wire-based services will become

increasingly meaningless — and they could even interchange. Telecommunications are often described as the railroads of the 20th century. If that is a fair comparison, then we could be about to see

the dawning of the age of the telecommunications version of the motor car — information freedom and flexibility for everyone. Whether that is a dream or a nightmare is up to you to decide.

## Not quite the people's phone

More networks are on the way but they are still not problem-free

Personal communications networks (PCNs) will offer a cheaper alternative to the existing cellular services — but at the cost of some restrictions. If price were the only consideration, PCNs could represent the true people's pocket phone. Andrew Emmerson writes.

The idea was born in the heady optimism — and robust economy — of the last decade. PCNs are a short-range pocket-phone service made possible by newly developed digital radio techniques.

At the same time, companies envious of the success and high profits of the established cellular systems have seen PCNs as potentially a quick way to profits by offering charges lower than Cellnet's and Vodafone's.

PCNs were espoused by the government of the day, which was deeply committed to competition, as a means of keeping cellular radio charges in check.

But progress has not been as good as expected and since the initial euphoria has subsided there are still only promises. Two new networks — one from Mercury, the other from Hong Kong-based Hutchison — are being developed.

Mercury's service, One-2-One, is promised for this autumn, initially in the London area bounded by the M25 motorway. From anywhere in the network area, the phones will be able to make or receive calls to or from any other phone in the world.

By April 1994 the network should have expanded over the South-east to cover an area accounting for a quarter of the British population. Further coverage is likely to follow.

Digital networks should mean high-quality speech, phones on sale for £300 and cheaper calls or lower monthly subscriptions.

Other features are provided as standard, including an answering service to take calls when the phone is engaged or unavailable, as well as a smart card device that makes the phone unusable if it is lost or stolen.

Hutchison Microtel promises a rival service next year, with a coverage area initially of a quarter of the population. In other respects, its pricing and service policy are expected to match One-2-One's.

Hutchison says it wants to

make sure the network is fully ready before launching and there is no need for users to rush.

This would imply a tacit recognition that customers may not be ready for PCN offerings. Most industry observers certainly accept that it will take a while for the service to enter the consciousness of a public already confused by the many competing claims made for the technologies of cellular, telepoint and advanced radio-paging.

PCNs will undoubtedly find a niche — the main question being how big it will be. Cellnet and Vodafone hope that the restricted geographical coverage will be a turn-off. They argue that cellular prices are now already affordable for anyone who needs mobile coverage.

But this ignores human nature and there will undoubtedly be some people



Friendly: the new Mercury

who will deliberately choose a product with an alternative image rather than one with a low price.

Some users might feel uncomfortable with the image of a cellphone, yet more at ease with a PCN handset, and the new networks are reported to be getting ready to emphasise this "ordinary people" angle. PCN operators are working hard to develop their images. As with facsimile-transmission machines, video recorders and microwave ovens, a mass market could develop in time.

However, good marketing and shrewd pricing will be vital, according to a report issued by CIT Research, a firm of telecom analysts, which also notes that market confidence in PCNs has "evaporated" as the number of licensees has fallen from three to two and the number of shareholders from 13 to three.

## Service providers under threat

Rival operators are seeking a slice of the action in a lucrative market

The success of the British cellular telephone industry is invariably credited to the concept of the service provider. It stimulated competition, particularly on equipment prices, and the winners were the customers.

Service providers — or airtime retailers — are middle men between the cellular network operators, Cellnet and Vodafone, and their customers. Until next January, these two operators are prohibited from dealing directly with the public and can only sell bulk airtime to the service providers. In turn, they sell on airtime and services to individual subscribers, either directly or through dealers.

To stimulate demand and offset high initial equipment prices, the networks offered substantial bonuses to service providers for each new connection. Although this created a distorted market, where consumers were paying less for their phones than they cost to make, it also provided sub-

stantial revenue for the service providers which sprung up all over the country. Poor management, financial over-stretch and economic downturn have seen off many of these pioneers, but the demand for mobile phones guaranteed success for the survivors.

This success, however, is under threat from new services and new competitors. Within the next few months, cellular radio's first real rival — the Mercury One-2-One service — will be offering an alternative.

Mercury is permitted to sell direct to the public or through high street retailers. However, as Alan Harper, the business strategy and development director for the service, points out, "While we can sell direct to the end user, and we will, we are also under an obligation to provide our ser-

vice to airtime retailers for resale." Direct selling by the networks seems unlikely to make a major impact on the situation — both Cellnet and Vodafone are emphasising that service providers will still be the most important part of their market.

But for customers they will no longer be the sole source of independent advice. This role will also be filled by the dealer and high street retailer, who will deal direct with the operators. Areas such as billing services, previously the service providers' domain, are already being closely examined by third-party suppliers, such as credit card companies.

One effect of these changes will be another consolidation of service providers, into larger groupings. To be able to offer a far wider range of services

and to handle large subscriber bases, service providers will need to install sophisticated management systems; only large groups will have the necessary financial clout to compete.

Jack Knight, the marketing manager of Cellcom, one of the longest-established and largest of the service providers, is optimistic. "The benefit of the service provider to the customer will continue to be as the honest broker," Mr Knight says. "If you have a multiplicity of networks and services, you need someone to help you through the labyrinth — the service provider."

Telecommunications is a growth area with more opportunities than any other market, he says, welcoming the involvement of high street retailers to widen the channels of distribution. "If the market is to grow to ten million users by 2000, we are going to need all the outlets we can get."

IAN CHANNING



Optimistic: Cellcom's Jack Knight welcomes retailers

## Telepoint survivor digs in its heels

The company behind the Rabbit phone is determined that it will succeed

Rabbit, the cheap but restricted portable phone service, is the only telepoint system still running in Britain. Customers can only make outgoing calls and must be within 200 yards of a base station but calls are cheap and the mobile phone used costs only £100.

Hutchison Personal Communications, the company behind the service, predicted it would have 20,000 customers by mid-1993 but has only between 10,000 and 13,000.

As a result the company has changed its emphasis. Once telepoint was positioned as a poor man's mobile phone. Now the emphasis is on making it a rival to payphones, or as Neil Macklin, the company's marketing manager, dubs it "A payphone in your pocket". "You do not need money or a phone card and you get an unlimited bill you can use for expense claims," he says.

Hutchison is planning the installation of about 400 base stations on the London Underground. The base stations, some of which have split antennae to serve several platforms as well as ticket halls at the same location, bring the company's three-year plan for a national network of 12,000 base stations within sight.

Last year the company began selling a £200 phone that could be used as a cordless in the home or office as well as the street. The phone can provide high quality and interference-free calls, though if the street portion of the service is not used, it is a high price to pay for a phone only to be used at home.

A street-only phone, the Motorola Silverlink, costs £100 and weighs 6 oz. It is said to be one of the lightest handsets available.

Although Hutchison is not keen to encourage com-

parisons with the more versatile fully blown mobile phones — that accept incoming calls and can make and receive calls on the move — it argues that telepoint makes economic sense for some cellphone users.

The basic Rabbit service costs £6 a month and calls are charged at 20p a minute peak rate and 10p a minute off-peak. "If you have a cellular phone and are a heavy user, 150 to 200 minutes a month, then you have the right equipment. But if you only occasionally need to make calls, maybe 50 to 100 minutes a month, then Rabbit makes better sense at around 40 per cent of the cost of cellular at the same level of usage," Mr Macklin says.

The company is trying to reduce telepoint's image as being only a one-way service, limited to outgoing calls. Rabbit Recall, costing £10 a month, links the phone with a pager. A new service, called Rabbit Respond and costing £11.50 a month, is being tested in the London area. It is similar to the Meet Me service offered by Hutchison on its Hong Kong telepoint network. Tien Dey Sen, someone trying to call a telepoint handset dials an operator who sends a message to the customer's pager. He or she then dials a number which can connect the two parties in about 15 seconds.

If the handset is switched off



Direct line: making a call by Rabbit link from Warren Street Underground station

or the telepoint customer is out of range of a base station, the caller is diverted to a message answering service.

Other attempts to boost telepoint's fortunes, include offering a free second phone to people buying the home cordless phone if they subscribe to the telepoint network.

Peter Wright, managing director of Hutchison Personal Communications, says surveys indicated that people would use the telepoint service more if they remembered to take their home CT2 phones with them. Having two phones means one can be left at home and the other kept in a briefcase, handbag or car, he says.

Deals have or are about to be signed with other Euro-

pean telepoint operators, such as in The Netherlands and France. These allow Rabbit customers to use their phones there with calls charged at British rates.

Certainly it is only enthusiasm that is the secret to business success, then telepoint should confound the critics and succeed in Britain. Hutchison's revised targets is 60,000 customers by the end of 1993.

However the service can, on casual acquaintance, still appear to suffer from some of the frustrations of its three ill-fated predecessors that were shut down after incurring huge losses.

In Wapping, east London, where The Times is based, it was found to be impossible to

near Russell Square in central London. Without a map it was impossible to know where the nearest base station or coverage area might be. However, on a march down Oxford Street the service did fulfil its expectations by keeping the caller in continuous touch.

Mr Macklin emphasises that the service was aimed at areas where people shop, travel from or carry out leisure or entertainment pursuits. "You would be hard pressed not to get a line in Soho, down Shaftsbury Avenue, Leicester Square, towards the stations, on the Strand. All these kinds of areas offer effectively, continuous service," he says.

Mr Macklin also says that the company was planning to offer coverage maps. It has put up 26,000 Rabbit signs showing coverage around base stations and many more are planned.

The success of telepoint will also depend on how its price compares with the personal communication networks due to be coming in over the next few years and which will offer true, two-way, communications. Hutchison says it intends to make sure Rabbit is always the cheapest service.

NICK NUTTALL

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## Explanation detracts from payment

**Charlton v EMAP plc and Others**  
Before Judge Previc, QC  
[Judgment May 27]

Defendants to a libel action were not entitled to have it said in a statement made on behalf of the plaintiff that a substantial amount of money paid into court was done so for commercial reasons. The inclusion of such an explanation detracted from the value of the money paid in as being in itself a vindication.

Judge Previc, QC, sitting as a judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so held in a reserved judgment given in chambers, and reported with his Lordship's permission, in rejecting the opposition of the defendants EMAP plc, Alan Barter and Sean Ashcroft, to the exclusion by the plaintiff, Julia Maureen Charlton, of an explanation of the defendants' reasons for making a payment into court.

Mr Manuel Barco for the plaintiff, Mr Mark Warby for the defendants.

HIS LORDSHIP said that in the libel action brought by the plaintiff the defendants had paid money into court which the plaintiff had accepted.

The plaintiff now applied to the judge in chambers pursuant to Order 22, rule 5(1) of the Rules of the Supreme Court to make a statement in open court in terms approved by the judge.

The defendants did not oppose the plaintiff having leave to make a statement but vigorously opposed the terms proposed by the plaintiff and wished to have included in the statement an explanation of the defendants' reasons for making the payment into court.

The plaintiff was a dressmaker.

She had carried on her business from premises in Gosport, Hampshire, since about 1988. In 1989, the first defendants were the proprietor and publisher of *Streetlife*, a weekly newspaper, with a circulation of about 190,000 in Gosport and surrounding areas. Mr Barter was the editor and Mr Ashcroft was a reporter. EMAP were no longer the owners of the paper.

Between June 15 and August 3, 1989, the defendants published seven articles which were defamatory of the plaintiff personally and of her in her business. The defendants pleaded justification.

On November 20, 1991, a payment into court of £15,000 was made on behalf of all the defendants. In a letter of the same date it was pointed out that the payment was made "entirely for commercial reasons and does not reflect any view of the strength of our clients' case on the merits, and that it was made without admission of liability. That payment in was not accepted.

On September 4, 1992, a payment into court of a further £15,000 was made. Again it was stated by letter that it was made entirely for commercial reasons. It was not accepted.

The plaintiff rejected an offer of a further £10,000 made by the defendants' solicitors in a letter dated December 9.

On January 5, 1993 the plaintiff informed the defendants that she was going to set the action down for trial the next week. On January 7, the defendants paid a further £45,000 into court, making a total of £75,000. On January 29, the plaintiff accepted the payment in. It was necessary to determine, *inter alia*, whether the wording of

the draft statement was appropriate having regard to the rival contentions of the parties and whether the statement should refer only to the fact that the money paid into court was paid in without any admission of liability but also to the defendants' contention that the money was paid in for commercial reasons and to the basis for that contention.

The factors which his Lordship considered he should take into account were:

1 The nature of the defamatory allegations and the very strong language in which they were expressed.

2 The fact that the allegations were contained in a series of seven articles published over a period of two months.

3 The fact that *Streetlife* had a substantial circulation in Gosport and surrounding areas which were the areas in which the plaintiff and her customers lived, and in which the plaintiff carried on her business.

4 The fact that the plaintiff maintained that she had lost a substantial volume of business and customers.

5 The fact that the defamatory meanings ascribed to the articles could well be found to bear.

6 The fact that from the date when the defence was first served in January 1992 the defendants had maintained that the allegations complained of were true and had supported that defence with abundant particulars.

7 The fact that the defendants maintained that the plaintiff's claims for special damages and for aggravated and exemplary damages were unsubstantiated.

8 The fact that a total sum of

£75,000 had been paid into court on behalf of all three defendants and that such a sum was clearly very substantial, sufficient of itself to vindicate totally a plaintiff against whom such allegations had been made.

9 The fact that while, on the one hand, the defendants had made successive payments into court with details of liability and with explanations in correspondence that the payments had been made for commercial reasons, on the other hand, the defendants themselves had expressly drawn to the plaintiff's attention when proposing the payment a total of only £40,000 that such a sum would put the plaintiff at risk with regard to costs of the trial.

10 The fact that a payment into court of £75,000 clearly put the plaintiff very seriously at risk with regard to the costs of the trial and that in a trial of the length anticipated in this case a failure to beat the payment in would have meant not only that the plaintiff would lose all the damages but also that she would have to pay a very substantial sum in respect of the defendants' costs.

11 The fact that the plaintiff rejected earlier and lesser payments into court and made it clear, until the payment in amounted to £75,000, that she was going to trial.

Taking into account all those facts, the plaintiff was entitled to a statement which wholly vindicated and exonerated her in respect of all the allegations made in the articles and nothing said in respect of the defendants detracted from that vindication.

Solicitors: Payne Marsh Stilwell, Southampton; Oswald Hickson Collier & Co.

## Tender term not binding on company

**Southampton City Council v Academy Cleaning Services London Ltd**  
Before Judge Zuckerman, QC  
[Judgment May 14]

A company which tendered for a council cleaning contract was not thereby bound, in the absence of consideration, to provide a performance bond and a guarantee from its holding company as required by standard contract conditions incorporated into the form of tender.

Judge Zuckerman, QC, sitting as a judge of the Queen's Bench Division so held when dismissing an action for breach of contract brought by Southampton City Council against Academy Cleaning Services London Ltd.

Mr Paul Rees for the plaintiff, Mr Bankim Thanki for the defendant.

HIS LORDSHIP said the council, as was its duty under the Local Government Act 1988, had invited tenders for cleaning of public conveniences.

The council's instructions to tenderers required a performance bond £33,000. There was no

specific reference in the form of tender to a holding company guarantee, but such a guarantee was incorporated by reference to standard contract conditions by which the tenderer agreed to be bound.

Academy Cleaning Services, a wholly owned subsidiary of Securigard plc, had submitted a tender but without offering either a performance bond or a holding company guarantee.

The council had accepted the tender and asked for the bond and guarantee.

Academy had told the council it was not company policy to offer both bond and guarantee, although they would happily provide one or the other.

The council, however, had insisted on both, claiming that Academy were bound by their tender.

By mistake the council had sent a bond form to Academy in the sum of £8,000 which Academy had returned.

The council submitted there was a contract between the parties constituted by Academy's form of

tender and the council's letter of acceptance and Academy's attempt to vary that contract was of no legal effect.

Academy had submitted that they were entitled to and did amend their offer. The parties were not *ad idem* and there was no binding agreement.

In his Lordship's judgment, expenditure incurred by Southampton in connection with the tender had been incurred voluntarily and not on the faith of Academy's promise to undertake the work. The council's compliance with its statutory duties could not be regarded as the giving of value to Academy.

There was no contract between the parties and Academy were not bound to provide the bond and guarantee sought by the council.

Solicitors: Lawrence Graham for Mr Jeffrey Partison, Southampton; Herbert Smith.

## Deterrent sentences

**Regina v James**

Where the process of sentencing necessarily involved a deterrent element, it was right that only slight attention could be paid to the personal circumstances of the defendant if the process were to achieve its goal.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Rose and Mr Justice Turner) so stated on May 18 when giving reasons for dismissing an appeal by Gilbert John James against a sentence of 18 months

imprisonment imposed in February 1993 at Cardiff Crown Court (Judge Jones) for three counts of indecent assault, contrary to section 14(1) of the Sexual Offences Act 1956, against girl prostitutes under the age of 16.

MR JUSTICE TURNER said that while the girls were already prostitutes when they met the appellant, the fact that men would make use of the service of such girls gave rise to the evil feature of their existence.

## Human Rights Law Report

## Religious freedom violated

**Kokkinakis v Greece**

(Case No 3/1992/348/421)

Before R. Kysiel, President and Judges R. Bernhardt, L-E. Pettit, B. Walsh, J. De Meyer, N. Valticos, S. K. Martens, I. Righel, A. N. Lokou and M. A. Lopez Rocha

Registrar: M-A. Eissen

[Judgment May 25]

The European Court of Human Rights held, by six votes to three, that the freedom to manifest one's religion or belief, as guaranteed by article 9 of the European Convention on Human Rights, had been violated in the case of Mr Kokkinakis, a Jehovah's Witness.

It also held, by eight votes to one, that there had been no violation of article 7, which enshrines the principle that only the law can define a crime and prescribe a penalty.

Article 9 of the Convention provides: "1 Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief, in worship, teaching, practice and observance."

"2 Freedom to manifest one's religion or beliefs shall be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of public safety, for the protection of public order, health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others."

Article 7 provides: "1 No one shall be held guilty of any criminal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a criminal offence under national or international law at the time when it was committed. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the criminal offence was committed."

"2 This article shall not prejudice the trial and punishment of any person for any act of omission which, at the time when it was committed, was criminal according to the general principles of law recognised by civilised nations."

On March 2, 1986 Mrs and Mr Kokkinakis, who were Jehovah's Witnesses, called at the home of Mrs Kyriakaki, an orthodox Christian.

According to findings of fact subsequently made by the national courts, the applicants insisted that Mrs Kyriakaki should let them in and they then engaged in a discussion with her during which Mr Kokkinakis attempted to convert her, in particular by reading from various books and giving her others.

Her husband called the police, who arrested and detained Mr and Mrs Kokkinakis. The couple were later charged with proselytism, an offence punishable under section 4

of Law No 1363/1938 (*Anagastikos Nomos*).

On March 20, 1986 the Lasithi Criminal Court convicted them and sentenced them each to four months imprisonment, convertible into a pecuniary penalty of 400 drachmas per day's imprisonment, and a fine of 10,000 drachmas.

They appealed, and on March 17, 1987 the Crete Court of Appeal acquitted Mrs Kokkinakis but upheld her husband's conviction, although it reduced his prison sentence to three months and converted it into a pecuniary penalty of 400 drachmas per day. He lodged an appeal on points of law with the Court of Cassation but it was dismissed in April 1988.

Having attempted unsuccessfully to achieve a friendly settlement, the European Commission of Human Rights adopted a report on December 3, 1991, in which it established the facts of the case and expressed the opinion that there had been no violation of article 7 (by eleven votes to two), there had been a violation of article 9 (unanimously), and that no separate issue arose under article 10 (by twelve votes to one).

The Commission referred the case to the Court on February 21, 1992.

**1 Alleged violation of article 9**

**A General principles**

As enshrined in article 9, freedom of thought, conscience and religion was one of the foundations of a democratic society within the meaning of the Convention.

It was, in its religious dimension, one of the most vital elements that went to make up the identity of believers and of their conception of life, but it was also a precious asset for atheists, agnostics, sceptics and the unconcerned. The pluralism indissociable from a democratic society, which had been clearly won over the centuries, depended on it.

While religious freedom was primarily a matter of individual conscience, it also implied, *inter alia*, freedom to manifest one's religion. Bearing witness in words and deeds was bound up with the existence of religious convictions.

According to article 9, freedom to manifest one's religion was not only exercisable in community with others, in public, and within the circle of those whose faith one shared, but could also be asserted alone and in private.

It included in principle the right to try to convince one's neighbour, for example through teaching, failing which, moreover, freedom to change one's religion or belief, enshrined in article 9, would be likely to remain a dead letter.

The requirements of article 9 were reflected in the Greek Constitution in so far as article 13 of the latter declared that freedom of conscience in religious matters was inviolable and that there should be freedom to practise any known religion. Jehovah's Wit-

nesses accordingly enjoyed both the status of a known religion and the advantages flowing from that as regarded observance.

The fundamental nature of the rights guaranteed in article 9, paragraph 1, was also reflected in the wording of the paragraph providing for limitations on them: unlike the second paragraphs of articles 8, 10 and 11, which covered all the rights mentioned in the first paragraphs of those articles, that of article 9 referred only to freedom to manifest one's religion or belief.

In so doing, it recognised that in democratic societies, in which several religions co-existed within one and the same population, it might be necessary to place restrictions on that freedom in order to reconcile the interests of the various groups and ensure that everyone's beliefs were respected.

**B Application of the principles**

The sentence passed by the Lasithi Criminal Court and subsequently reduced by the Crete Court of Appeal amounted to an interference with the exercise of Mr Kokkinakis's right to freedom to manifest his religion or belief. Such an interference was contrary to article 9 unless it was prescribed by law, directed at one or more of the legitimate aims in paragraph 2 and necessary in a democratic society for achieving them.

**1 Prescribed by law**

The Court noted that the wording of many statutes was not absolutely precise. The need to avoid excessive rigidity and to keep pace with changing circumstances meant that many laws were couched in terms which, to a greater or lesser extent, were vague (see, for example and *mutatis mutandis*, *Muller and Others v Switzerland* (The Times June 4, 1988: Series A, No 133, paragraph 29)).

Criminal law provisions on proselytism fell within this category. The interpretation and application of such enactments depended on practice.

In this instance there existed a body of settled national case-law. That case-law, which had been published and was accessible, supplemented the letter of section 4 of Law No 1363/1938 and was such as to enable Mr Kokkinakis to regulate his conduct in the manner.

**2 Legitimate aim**

The impugned measure had been in pursuit of a legitimate aim under article 9 paragraph 2: the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

**3 Necessary in a democratic society**

A distinction had to be made between bearing Christian witness and improper proselytism. The former corresponded to true evangelism, the latter represented a corruption or deformation of it which was not compatible with

respect for the freedom of thought, conscience and religion of others.

The relevant criteria adopted by the Greek legislature could be considered acceptable in so far as they were designed only to punish improper proselytism, which the Court did not have to define in the abstract in the present case.

The Court noted, however, that in their reasoning, the Greek courts had established the applicants' liability by merely reproducing the wording of section 4 and had not sufficiently specified in what way the accused had attempted to convince his neighbour by improper means. None of the facts they had set out warranted that finding.

That being so, it had not been shown that the applicant's conviction was justified in the circumstances of the case by a pressing social need. The assessed measure therefore did not appear to have been proportionate to the legitimate aim pursued or, consequently, necessary in a democratic society for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

The Court therefore held (Judges Valticos, Fiolghet and Lohou dissenting) that there had been a breach of article 9 of the Convention.

**11 Alleged violation of article 7**

Article 7 paragraph 1 was not confined to prohibiting the retrospective application of the criminal law to an accused's disadvantage. It also embodied, more generally, the principle that only the law could define a crime and prescribe a penalty (*nullum crimen, nulla poena sine lege*) and the principle that the criminal law must not be extensively construed to an accused's detriment, for instance by analogy.

It followed from that that an offence had to be clearly defined in law.

In the present case the applicant could know, from the wording of section 4 of Law No 1363/1938 and with the assistance of the Greek courts' interpretation of it, what acts would make him liable.

In conclusion the Court held (Judge Martens dissenting) there had been no violation of article 7. **111 Alleged violations of article 10** (right to freedom of expression), and article 14 (prohibition of any discrimination).

Taken together with article 9 having regard to its decision on article 9, the Court considered it unnecessary to examine the complaints made under these articles (unanimously).

**IV Application of article 50**

Making its assessment on an equitable basis, the Court unanimously awarded the applicant compensation of 400,000 drachmas for non-pecuniary damage. For the costs and expenses incurred in Greece and before the Convention institutions the Court also awarded him 2,789,500 drachmas.

# Mind your own business

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We refer, of course, to Barry Kasparov and Nigel Short who will be competing for The Times World Chess Championship.

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## NEWS

## Lamont warns Major: lay off

Norman Lamont has threatened John Major with further unspecified damage unless he calls off the barrage of personal attacks being launched by the Tory high command.

The former Chancellor is understood to have told the prime minister: "You leave me alone and I'll leave you alone." The message was not given directly to Mr Major or to Downing Street, but to an intermediary who swiftly passed it on. Page 1

## Clough took transfer cash, court told

Brian Clough, the former Nottingham Forest manager, allegedly wanted money for himself when he was transferring footballers to other clubs, the High Court was told in an affidavit by Alan Sugar, Spurs chairman. The allegation was denied by Terry Venables. Page 1

## UK troops disarmed

British troops in central Bosnia were disarmed at gunpoint by Muslim irregulars outside the town of Kiseljak. The incident has embarrassed and angered British commanders and led to fears that such robberies may well increase as Bosnian forces of all persuasions seek new weapon supplies. Pages 1, 11

## Lloyd's £2.8bn loss

The chairman of Lloyd's of London confirmed yesterday that names, many of whom already face bankruptcy, are to be hit by record losses of up to £2.8 billion. Pages 1, 23

## Pet prosecutions

Magistrates in London fined an unemployed waitress £130 for abandoning her pet rat Ziggy at her south London flat; magistrates in Berkshire cleared an electrician accused of abandoning his fish. Both cases were brought by the RSPCA. Page 1

## Les Dawson dies

Les Dawson, the comedian who represented the antithesis of political correctness and was one of the last exponents of Blackpool seafaring humour, died yesterday aged 59. Pages 1, 3, 17

## 'Evidence withheld'

Key evidence withheld by police, together with sensationalised press coverage of the Alison Shaughnessy murder trial, led to the wrongful convictions of two young sisters, the Court of Appeal was told. Page 4

## Exam time, philosophically speaking

French sixth-formers have abandoned the Nintendo and turned down the rap: today they must submit to that peculiarly Gallic torture — the compulsory four-hour philosophy exam central to the baccalauréat. At 8am, trembling palms from Nice to Dunkirk will start scratching out 1.8 million essays on the meaning of life. Page 11

## Hospital risks

Patients who suffer a cardiac arrest in hospital have only a small chance of receiving skilled resuscitation and may be left to die because training and communication standards are so poor, according to *British Medical Journal* reports. Page 8

## Japan's UN hopes

Japanese hopes of a place in the United Nations Security Council have been raised by the American UN delegate's reiterating that the Clinton administration would like to see Japan and Germany admitted. Page 10

## Cambodian poll plea

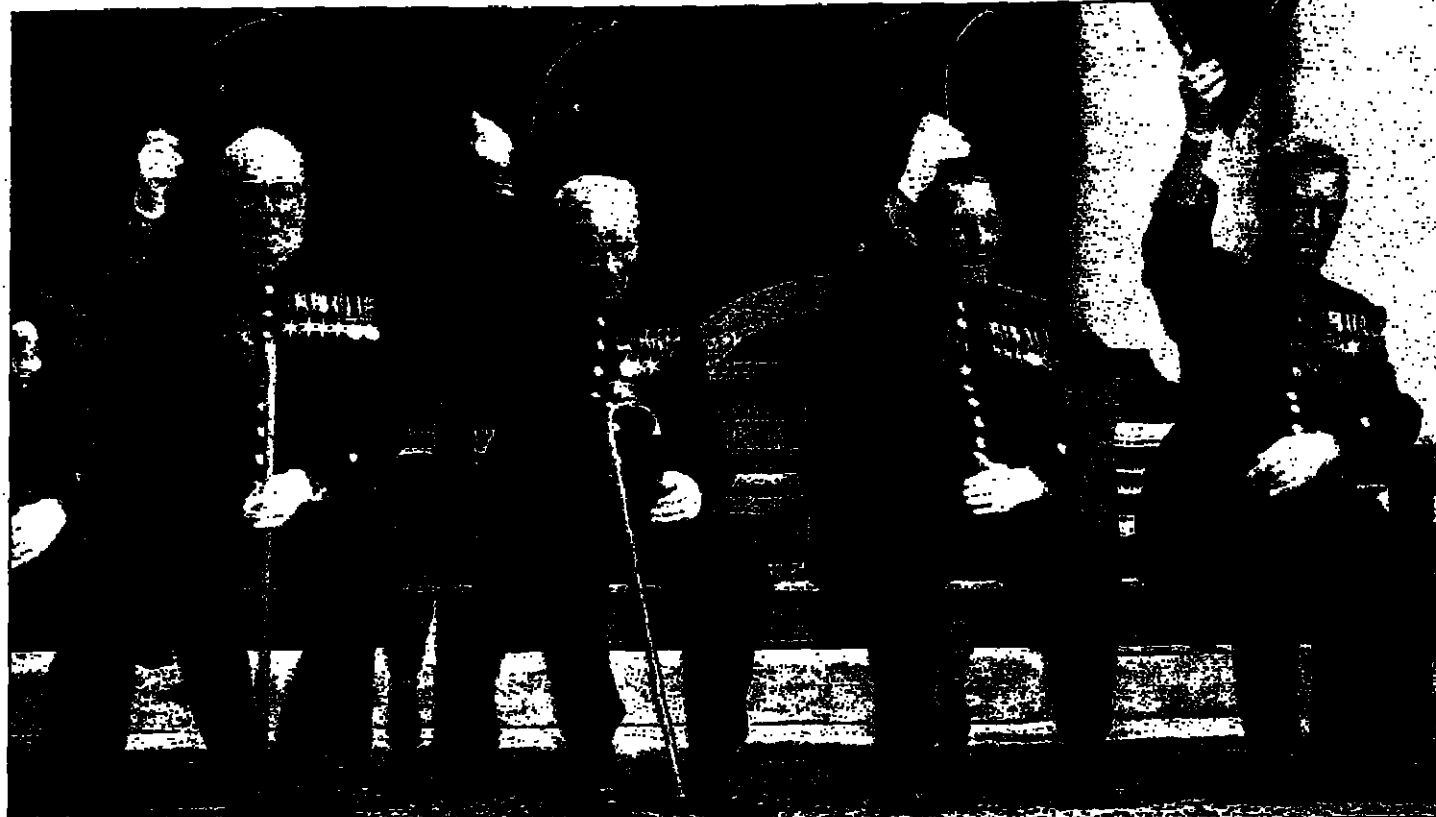
The ruling Cambodian People's Party which was defeated in last month's election, has predicted bloodshed unless there is an enquiry into alleged poll fraud. Page 10

## US show of force

With the first of four US gunships due to arrive in Somalia, Washington officials are sure they will be used to punish Muhammad Farrah Aidid, the warlord whose forces killed 23 Pakistani members of the UN peacekeeping force. Page 9

## Italian murder claim

Italian investigating magistrates have disclosed evidence from a close aide to Giulio Andreotti leading them to suspect the former Christian Democrat prime minister may have ordered the murder of a journalist in 1979. Page 11



Raising a cheer: pensioners at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, greet the Duchess of Gloucester at yesterday's founder's day inspection

## More names needed: Lloyd's

London has changed its rules so that 1,500 rather than 100 names' signatures are required to call an extraordinary general meeting. Page 23

## Private cost: British Coal

Private tenders for private companies to take over five more collieries, including the Rossington and Markham Main pits near Doncaster. Page 23

## Markets: Sterling strengthened

Yesterday, closing up .82 cents at \$1.5177 and .58 pence at £1.5177. Shares eased but ended above the day's lowest level, with the FT-SE 100 index at 2,860.0, down 6.9. Page 26

## Football: Rob Hughes assesses

England's defeat by the United States and believes Graham Taylor should resign — "He is a man out of his depth. A trier for sure, but he seemed to miss the points on which his team have become so wretchedly inept". Pages 42, 44

## Tennis: Pam Shriver recovered

from a break down in the final set to defeat Mana Endo of Japan 4-6, 7-6, 6-4 at the Edgbaston grass-court championships. Page 42

## Rugby Union: Will Carling and

Martin Bayfield will face the All Blacks in the first Test tomorrow just five days after injury threatened to disrupt their tour of New Zealand. Page 41

## Closing ranks: "It is when rich

families close ranks to protect their own that he finds his favourite themes". Valerie Grove meets the American novelist Dominick Dunne. Page 13

## Two cultures: The age-old rivalry

between scientists and men of letters has come to a head in America over "a plagiarism machine", a computer that is able to locate identical passages in different books. Page 12

## Paris Catch: A big loan show at the

Tate Gallery focuses on the artists of post-war Paris, working in a climate of austerity and political turbulence. Page 33

## Storm on the Mersey: The Royal

Liverpool Philharmonic is reported to be near insolvency only two years after celebrating its 150th anniversary. Page 33

## Word power: A London revival of

Brian Friel's play *Translations* is a reminder of the continuing richness of the Irish dramatic tradition. Page 34

## Musical emissary: President Clinton

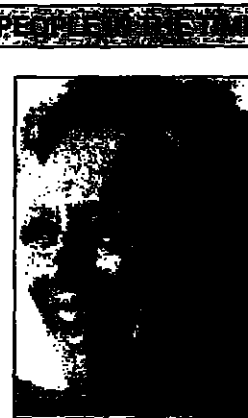
has named Kenny G as "ambassador for music". What's in it for both of them? Page 35

## Profes and Roffe: Kevin Eason had

a chance to drive a motorist's dream car for a day, and took it to do the shopping. Page 36



Sir Angus Stirling, chairman of the Royal Opera House, has joined those warning of an impending financial disaster in the arts world. Pages 5, 15



Lady Wilcox, National Consumer Council chairman, who launched the citizen's charter complaints task force. Page 7



Rob Bailey, who scored a double century for Northamptonshire against Sussex at Hove. Page 40

## TOMORROW IN THE TIMES

## Spreading garden ripples

Fountains and cascades, pools and lakes. Weekend celebrates water gardens

## Classics for the asking

CD Direct, launched by *The Times* tomorrow, offers readers the finest recordings of classical music at specially reduced prices

## Ascot, in second-hand style

Why the chic but thrifty clients of a certain London shop will be entering the Royal Enclosure wearing last year's outfit and a confident smile

## TV LISTINGS

Bob Marley, the reggae star, is profiled in a documentary which includes concert footage featuring more than 20 of his songs. (Channel 4, 11.10pm) Page 43

## OPINION

## How not to help the UN

Bill Clinton's campaign pledge to expand the United Nations Security Council was ill conceived and should have been quietly shelved. The Americans argue that Germany and Japan are great powers and that the council must represent the "real world". So it should: and in the real world, Germany and Japan are giants hobbled in the exercise of military power. Page 15

## An inescapable duty

British ministers have repeatedly insisted that the toughness of British policy for Hong Kong is to protect the rights, freedoms and prosperity of the people it will hand over to Chinese rule in July 1997. No right is more basic than the right to a nationality. Page 15

## Rattling on animals

The RSPCA should prosecute where there is evidence of severe neglect or abuse. In minor cases, where there is no hint of sadism, the society's role is to reprimand, and to teach the irresponsible pet owner the skills of animal care. Page 15

## BERNARD LEVIN

I think it is time to make the writing of biography a criminal offence. Perhaps it should not be completely abolished, but certainly there must be no more about the lately dead; let us say nobody more recent than the Venerable Bede or... Charies the Bald. Page 14

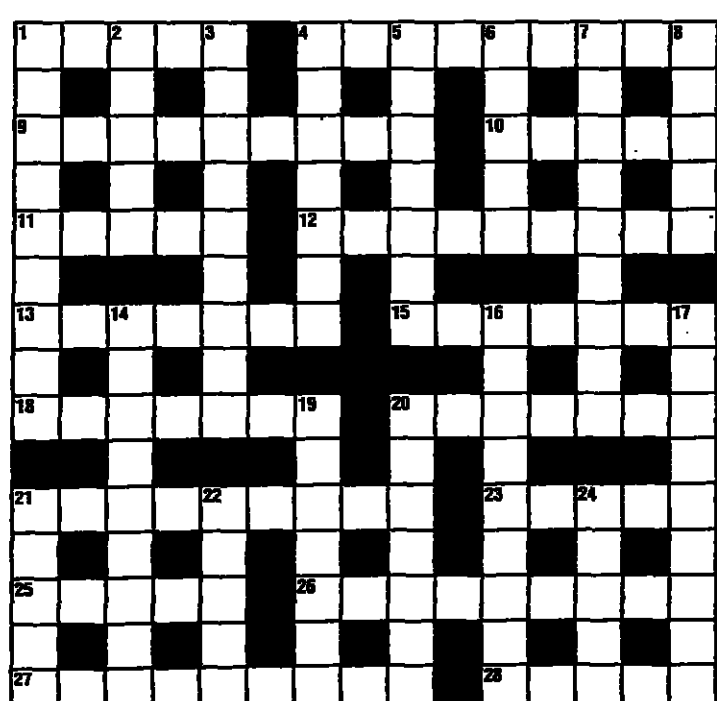
## PETER RIDDELL

It is tempting to regard ex-Chancellors who urge the need for an independent central bank as being like aged libertines who denounce sex in their dotage. Page 14

Peter Birt, QC, highlights the Lord Chancellor's views on eligibility for legal aid. Page 15

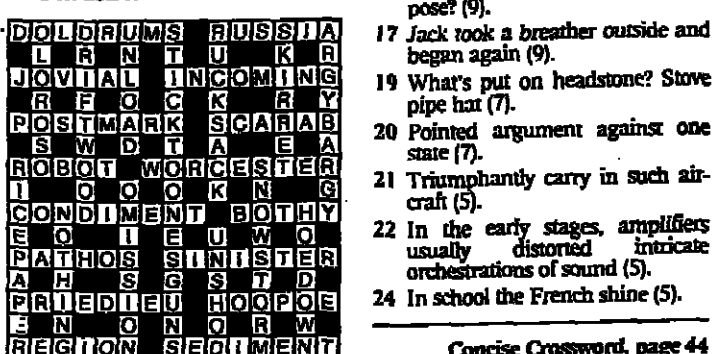
After the peacekeepers teach Aidid a lesson, they must remove the heavy arms from Somalia. The warlords' sophisticated weapons are the legacy of the superpower competition over Somalia. — Los Angeles Times

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,254



- ACROSS
- Frame different head in 10 (3,2).
  - Full from grace in second picture (9).
  - A fellow embraces girl — I charge for introduction (9).
  - Deposit — first trace of gold found in vein of ore (5).
  - A rule Aunt broke in the simplest way (2,7).
  - Occupied with a ring (7).
  - Seat right for colonist (7).
  - Respect the Sabbath in turn (7).
  - Try to make sales. (This is a pun on sails) (7).
  - Pink motor leads race (9).
  - Letter from abroad soldier's sent back to mother (5).
  - A short distance in front (5).
- DOWN
- Half the trivia (5,4).
  - Small boy I had easily frightened (5).
  - Father's given foreign coin (German) for fare (9).
  - Outlaw gang takes doctor prisoner (7).
  - Dogs stick around at home on Sunday (7).
  - Viewpoint expressed (5).
  - Italian upset about king, amongst other things (5,4).
  - Discharge General pocketing GI's shop turnover (5).
  - Female teacher has success with authorship (9).
  - A composer, must I then compose (9).
  - Jack took a breather outside and began again (9).
  - What's put on headstone? Stove pipe hat (7).
  - Pointed argument against one state (7).
  - Triumphantly carry in such aircraft (5).
  - In the early stages, amplifiers usually distorted intricate orchestrations of sound (5).
  - In school the French shine (5).

## Solution to Puzzle No 19,253



## For the latest region by region forecast, 24

hours a day, dial 0800 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
North East	702
North West	703
Yorkshire & the Humber	704
West Midlands	705
East Midlands	706
East of England	707
South East	708
South West	709
Wales & the West	710
Scotland	711
N Ireland	712
London & the South East	713
Yorkshire & the Humber	714
West Midlands	715
East Midlands	716
East of England	717
South East	718
South West	719
Wales & the West	720
Scotland	721
N Ireland	722
London & the South East	723
Yorkshire & the Humber	724
West Midlands	725
East Midlands	726
East of England	727
South East	728
South West	729
Wales & the West	730
Scotland	731
N Ireland	732

Weathercall is charged at 30p per minute (cheap rate) and 40p per minute at all other times.

## For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24

hours a day, dial 0800 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
C London (M1 & A1)	732
M1 & A1	733
M25 & A1	734
M25 & A1	735
M25 & A1	736
National motorways	737
West Midlands	738
East Midlands	739
East of England	740
South East	741
South West	742
Wales & the West	743
Scotland	744
N Ireland	745
London & the South East	746
Yorkshire & the Humber	747
West Midlands	748
East Midlands	749
East of England	750
South East	751
South West	752
Wales & the West	753
Scotland	754
N Ireland	755

AA Roadwatch is charged at 30p per minute (cheap rate) and 40p per minute at all other times.

## Tourist notes are on page 28

There will be a lot of cloud across the country, although bright spells are likely. Further showers or longer spells of rain are expected, heavy in places. There is still a risk of thunder. Western and central Scotland should have the best of the weather with some sunshine and few showers. Cooler and fresher in the south with brisk westerly winds. Outlook cloudy with showers or longer spells of rain. Perhaps drier and brighter in places on Sunday.

## MIDWINTER: 1-10 hours, 11-20 hours, 21-30 hours, 31-40 hours, 41-50 hours, 51-60 hours, 61-70 hours, 71-80 hours, 81-90 hours, 91-100 hours, 101-110 hours, 111-120 hours, 121-130 hours, 131-140 hours, 141-150 hours, 151-160 hours, 161-170 hours, 171-180 hours, 181-190 hours, 191-200 hours, 201-210 hours, 211-220 hours, 221-230 hours, 231-240 hours, 241-250 hours, 251-260 hours, 261-270 hours, 271-280 hours, 281-290 hours, 291-300 hours, 301-310 hours, 311-320 hours, 321-330 hours, 331-340 hours, 341-350 hours, 351-360 hours, 361-370 hours, 371-380 hours, 381-390 hours, 391-400 hours, 401-410 hours, 411-420 hours, 421-430 hours, 431-440 hours, 441-450 hours, 451-460 hours, 461-470 hours, 471-480 hours, 481-490 hours, 491-500 hours, 501-510 hours, 511-520 hours, 521-530 hours, 531-540 hours, 541-550 hours, 551-560 hours, 561-570 hours, 571-580 hours, 581-590 hours, 591-600 hours, 601-610 hours, 611-620 hours, 621-630 hours, 631-640 hours, 641-650 hours, 651-660 hours, 661-670 hours, 671-680 hours, 681-690 hours, 691-700 hours, 701-710 hours, 711-720 hours, 721-730 hours, 731-740 hours, 741-750 hours, 751-760 hours, 761-770 hours, 771-780 hours, 781-790 hours, 791-800 hours, 801-810 hours, 811-820 hours, 821-830 hours, 831-840 hours, 841-850 hours, 851-860 hours, 861-870 hours, 871-880 hours, 881-890 hours, 891-900 hours, 901-910 hours, 911-920 hours, 921-930 hours, 931-940 hours, 941-950 hours, 951-960 hours, 961-970 hours, 971-980 hours, 981-990 hours, 991-1000 hours, 1001-1010 hours, 1011-1020 hours, 1021-1030 hours, 1031-1040 hours, 1041-1050 hours, 1051-1060 hours, 1061-1070 hours, 1071-1080 hours, 1081-1090 hours, 1091-1100 hours, 1101-1110 hours, 1111-1120 hours, 1121-1130 hours, 1131-1140 hours, 1141-1150 hours, 1151-1160 hours, 1161-1170 hours, 1171-1180 hours, 1181-1190 hours, 1191-1200 hours, 1201-1210 hours, 1211-1220 hours, 1221-1230 hours, 1231-1240 hours, 1241-1250 hours, 1251-1260 hours, 1261-1270 hours, 1271-1280 hours, 1281-1290 hours, 1291-1300 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1881-1890 hours, 1891-1900 hours, 1901-1910 hours, 1911-1920 hours, 1921-1930 hours, 1931-1940 hours, 1941-1950 hours, 1951-1960 hours, 1961-1970 hours, 1971-1980 hours, 1981-1990 hours, 1991-2000 hours, 2001-2010 hours, 2011-2020 hours, 2021-2030 hours, 2031-2040 hours, 2041-2050 hours, 2051-2060 hours, 2061-2070 hours, 2071-2080 hours, 2081-2090 hours, 2091-2100 hours, 2101-2110 hours, 2111-2120 hours, 2121-2130 hours, 2131-2140 hours, 2141-2150 hours, 2151-2160 hours, 2161-2170 hours, 2171-2180 hours, 2181-2190 hours, 2191-2200 hours, 2201-2210 hours, 2211-2220 hours, 2221-2230 hours, 2231-2240 hours, 2241-2250 hours, 2251-2260 hours, 2261-2270 hours, 2271-2280 hours, 2281-2290 hours, 2291-2300 hours, 2301-2310 hours, 2311-2320 hours, 2321-2330 hours, 2331-2340 hours, 2341-2350 hours, 2351-2360 hours, 2361-2370 hours, 2371-2380 hours, 2381-2390 hours, 2391-2400 hours, 2401-2410 hours, 2411-2420 hours, 2421-2430 hours, 2431-2440 hours, 2441-2450 hours, 2451-2460 hours, 2461-2470 hours, 2471-2480 hours, 2481-2490 hours, 2491-2500 hours, 2501-2510 hours, 2511-2520 hours, 2521-2530 hours, 2531-2540 hours, 2541-2550 hours, 2551-2560 hours, 2561-2570 hours, 2571-2580 hours, 2581-2590 hours, 2591-2600 hours, 2601-2610 hours, 2611-2620 hours, 2621-2630 hours, 2631-2640 hours, 2641-2650 hours, 2651-2660 hours, 2661-2670 hours, 2671-2680 hours, 2681-2690 hours, 2691-2700 hours, 2701-2710 hours, 2711-2720 hours, 2721-2730 hours, 2731-2740 hours, 2741-2750 hours, 2751-2760 hours, 2761-2770 hours, 2771-2780 hours, 2781-2790 hours, 2791-2800 hours, 2801-2810 hours, 2811-2820 hours, 2821-2830 hours, 2831-2840 hours, 2841-2850 hours, 2851-2860 hours, 2861-2870 hours, 2871-2880 hours, 2881-2890 hours, 2891-2900 hours, 2901-2910 hours, 2911-2920 hours, 2921-2930 hours, 2931-2940 hours, 2941-2950 hours, 2951-2960 hours, 2961-2970 hours, 2971-2980 hours, 2981-2990 hours, 2991-3000 hours, 3001-3010 hours, 3011-3020 hours, 3021-3030 hours, 3031-3040 hours, 3041-3050 hours, 3051-3060 hours, 3061-3070 hours, 3071-3080 hours, 3081-3090 hours, 3091-3100 hours, 3101-3110 hours, 3111-3120 hours, 3121-3130 hours, 3131-3140 hours, 3141-3150 hours, 3151-3160 hours, 3161-3170 hours, 3171-3180 hours, 3181-3190 hours, 3191-3200 hours, 3201-3210 hours, 3211-3220 hours, 3221-3230 hours, 3231-3240 hours, 3241-3250 hours, 3251-3260 hours, 3261-3270 hours, 3271-3280 hours, 3281-3290 hours, 3291-3300 hours, 3301-3310 hours, 3311-3320 hours, 3321-3330 hours, 3331-3340 hours, 3341-3350 hours, 3351-3360 hours, 3361-3370 hours, 3371-3380 hours, 3381-3390 hours, 3391-3400 hours, 3401-3410 hours, 3411-3420 hours, 3421-3430 hours, 3431-3440 hours, 3441-3450 hours, 3451-3460 hours, 3461-3470 hours, 3471-3480 hours, 3481-3490 hours, 3491-3500 hours, 3501-3510 hours, 3511-3520 hours, 3521-3530 hours, 3531-3540 hours, 3541-3550 hours, 3551-3560 hours, 3561-3570 hours, 3571-3580 hours, 3581-3590 hours, 3591-3600 hours, 3601-3610 hours, 3611-3620 hours, 3621-3630 hours, 3631-3640 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ARTS 33-35

Art from postwar Paris, visiting the Tate Gallery

MOTORING 36

Riding the Roller for one glorious day

SPORT 38-44

Ben Clarke faces up to the might of New Zealand

TELEVISION AND RADIO  
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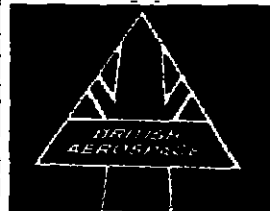
# THE TIMES

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FRIDAY JUNE 11 1993

BUSINESS TODAY

BAE JOY



British Aerospace wins a £500 million order from Indonesia for Hawk aircraft in what could herald a flurry of big orders  
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UK SNUB

Amid growing British doubts about monetary union EC president Jacques Delors says the process is alive and well in continental Europe  
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US BLUES



The Clinton administration's troubles closely follow the American perception of the economic recovery  
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THE POUND

US \$ 1.5177 (+0.0082)  
German mark 2.4798 (+0.0058)  
Exchange index 79.3 (+0.2)  
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 2660.0 (+8.9)  
Dow Jones 3513.59 (+1.88)  
Nikkei Ave 20483.32 (+1.82)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%  
3-month interbank 6.5%  
US Federal Funds 3%  
3-month Treasury 3.10-3.09%  
Long Bond 6.85%

CURRENCIES

New York: London 1.5180  
Paris 1.5243  
Swiss 1.4678  
¥ Yen 106.20  
\$ Yen 106.20  
\$ Yen 106.20  
\$ Yen 106.20

GOLD

London fixing (8)  
AM 369.60  
Close 369.00-369.40  
New York  
Close 369.25-369.75

RETAIL PRICES

RPI 140.6 April (1.3%)  
\* Denotes midday trading price

## Lloyd's changes rules to curb 'time wasters'

By SARAH BAGNALL  
INSURANCE  
CORRESPONDENT

LLOYD'S of London has bumped up the number of signatures needed to call an extraordinary general meeting from 100 to 1,500 in an attempt to stop small interest groups from "wasting management time and money".

David Rowland, Lloyd's chairman, said extraordinary meetings were "a huge diversion of management time besides the cost involved". Last year, a group of dissident names, led by Claude Gurney, called for an extraordinary meeting which cost Lloyd's £130,000 in direct costs alone, he added. Lloyd's is set to unveil record losses this month of up to £2.8 billion.

The change, which the Council of Lloyd's passed on Wednesday, takes effect immediately and is expected to hamper several separate attempts by interest groups to requisition extraordinary meetings. One attempt is being made by Richard Astor, a barrister whose family has suffered losses at Lloyd's. He is calling on names to vote for the liquidation of the 306-year-old insurance market.

Mr Rowland said he did not think "a whole series of egms is the right thing for the society... they are a diversion from running the business". He said it would be unacceptable for Peter Middleton, chief executive, and himself at the end of the year to say they failed to meet targets set in the business plan because a string of extraordinary meetings running through the summer

■ Lloyd's of London, expecting record losses of £2.8 billion, has raised to 1,500 from 100 the number of signatures needed to call an egm, to stop names "wasting time"

into the autumn had taken up too much time.

The increase in signatures needed brings Lloyd's closer to ples, which need 10 per cent of shareholders to call an extraordinary meeting. The new level is less than 5 per cent of Lloyd's voting members and 7.5 per cent of the market's active members. Mr Rowland said: "This is not an extraordinary number to get together to support something."

Lloyd's already faces one extraordinary meeting, called under the old rules of 100 signatures by a group of names led by Mr Gurney. At the meeting, set for July 5 — less than two weeks after Lloyd's annual meeting — names are being asked to vote that Lloyd's, its staff and council members owe fiduciary duties of care to names and are not exempt from paying damages to names. Names currently have no legal right to pursue Lloyd's management for damages.

Mr Gurney said his group supported the introduction of corporate capital into the market but that he "knew of no other organisation where institutions commit large sums of their clients' money without being able to sue for damages". He added, however, that the introduction of new sources of capital was only acceptable if current names shared in future profits. The

level suggested is 25 per cent of all future profits, an amount Mr Gurney considers adequate to recompense names for the transfer of the market's assets and goodwill to corporate capital providers.

He gave warning that if Lloyd's failed to recognise names' primacy and treat them fairly litigation would start against former Lloyd's council members, on the basis that they failed to reveal certain information that could have avoided names being hit by large losses.

■ The news that Tony Gooda, who recruited names to Gooda Walker syndicates, some of the biggest loss making syndicates in the market, is applying for hardship relief has angered names.

Michael Deeny, chairman of Gooda Walker action group, which represents more than 2,000 names, said: "It is one of those absurdities that turns up. I hope no sympathy will be wasted on Mr Gooda, who personally placed all the names on his members' agency on every Gooda Walker syndicate even though he knew the syndicates were engaged in heavy underwriting in the extremely dangerous LMX spiral."

Hardship is a Lloyd's scheme designed to help names through financial difficulties and is a means of avoiding bankruptcy.

## Clowes appeals against convictions for theft

By JON ASHWORTH

PETER Clowes, disgraced former head of Barlow Clowes, was back in the dock yesterday 16 months after beginning a ten-year sentence. He is appealing against his conviction on ten charges of theft but is not challenging guilty verdicts on eight fraud charges.

Peter Naylor, a computer expert and one of Clowes' former "lieutenants", is also appealing. He was jailed for 18 months on one charge of theft.

Clowes, who has been serving his sentence in Wandsworth prison, southwest London, stared sullenly from the dock at the Court of Appeal as the hearing began.

The court heard that Clowes should have been allowed to call evidence that showed he did not have to put investors' money solely into gilt-edged government stock.

During his trial, the court heard how Clowes "milked" millions of pounds from investors who thought their money was going into gilts. Instead, it was spent on buying other companies and on luxuries.

The trial judge told Clowes that a questionnaire prepared by solicitor Clyde & Co, instructed by the DTI, could not form part of his case. Clyde & Co was told to pursue actions for damages against intermediaries and financial institu-

tions in an attempt to recover government compensation.

Anthony Hacking, QC, for Clowes, questioned the correctness of the judge's decision. He said the questionnaire "pre-supposed" that Barlow Clowes did have the power to place cash with anybody. He told Lord Justice Watkins sitting with Mr Justice Auld and Mr Justice Scott Baker, they would also have to consider whether the trial judge had been right to give the jury his "legal construction" of a vital clause in a mandate, signed by investors, that authorised Clowes' firm to buy or sell government stock. The hearing continues.



Time to reflect: Sir Antony Pilkington, chairman, and Roger Leverton, chief executive, yesterday confirmed that Pilkington, the glass manufacturer, is cutting the dividend for the second time in two years and said that a further 2,000 jobs would be lost this year, mainly in Germany and America. Pre-tax profits fell 58 per cent to £40.7 million last year. The group said that although British operations were beginning to recover the deterioration in the German economy was severe. Debts rose by £172 million during the year, and by a further £100 million since the year-end. (Details 25, Tempos, 27)

## Tenders invited for five collieries

By ROSS TIEMAN  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Coal will today invite tenders to take over and run five more collieries, paving the way for a possible private-sector revolution in Britain's coal industry.

Private mining groups, led by RJB Mining, have spent months drawing plans for several of the pits now available. They hope to focus on selling coal to household and industrial markets.

"We just need to get below ground to see what equipment British Coal have left behind," Richard Budge, chief executive of RJB, said. "We have expressed interest in looking at about 11 pits, and think we would have serious interest in perhaps five or eight."

However, Malcolm Edwards, the former British Coal commercial director, said that any private-sector initiative would be difficult unless electricity generating companies were prepared to buy part of the output that unsuitable for domestic use.

Potential licensees have until July 2 to confirm interest in the latest batch of pits. The list, which brings to ten the number of mines available, embraces Rossington and Markham Main collieries, near Doncaster; Ruston and Clippstone, near Mansfield; and Betws, Dyfed.

Mr Edwards, like Mr Budge, is particularly attracted by Markham Main and Rossington. RJB, which has only modest borrowings after raising funds in a stock market flotation, has invited miners from these two pits to examine safety and working practices at its existing underground operations. However, Mr Budge says that private miners are looking to the government for early implementation of the white paper promise to lift restrictions on private mines.

Five more pits are expected to become available for licensing in the next few weeks as British Coal tries to escape upkeep costs at closed mines.

## BRITISH COAL CORPORATION Licensing of Closed Collieries

British Coal invites offers for licensing the working of coal and the use of associated facilities at each of the collieries named below. Decisions by British Coal to grant a licence in respect of each such colliery will be made on a colliery by colliery basis and separate offers are invited. Specific proposals for non-mining uses will also be given due consideration.

The collieries for which offers are invited are Clippstone Colliery, near Mansfield; Bevercotes Colliery, near Retford; Markham Main Colliery, Ammanford, Dyfed; Anthorpe, near Doncaster; Rossington Colliery, Rossington, Doncaster and Betws Colliery, Ammanford, Dyfed.

Expressions of interest must be received by 2 July 1993 either in writing to:

British Coal Corporation,  
Licensing of Closed Collieries,  
Eastwood Hall, Eastwood, Notts  
NG16 3EL. Fax No: 0773 532709

or by telephone on the following numbers:

Clippstone Colliery	0773 532710
Bevercotes Colliery	0773 532710
Markham Main Colliery	0773 532711
Rossington Colliery	0773 532711
Betws Colliery	0773 532712

and subsequently confirmed in writing.

British Coal reserves the right not to consider expressions of interest received after 2 July 1993. Parties who have expressed an interest in making an offer in respect of a particular colliery will be provided with a Preliminary Information Pack containing outline information on the colliery, an application form, a letter of undertaking and the terms of a £10,000 security deposit/bond, together with details of the licensing process and timetable.

Detailed information on the relevant colliery and draft tender documentation will subsequently be provided to any party which satisfies the requirements specified in the Preliminary Information Pack, which include entering into the letter of undertaking and the provision of the security deposit/bond.

The receipt of an offer will not create any obligation or commitment on the part of British Coal to enter into any negotiations or to grant a licence.

Enquiries about the procedures set out in this advertisement should be made in writing to the above address or by telephone on the numbers listed opposite.



## The question of who is in charge

Why have two of the last three Chancellors developed a secret yearning to make the Bank of England independent? It would reduce their own powers. Nigel Lawson was never given to self-doubt, and Norman Lamont was a pragmatist, not a high theorist. They were driven by a common experience: to make that clear, we must first revise a little recent history.

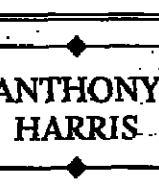
The common belief that Mr Lamont lost his City credibility on White Wednesday is wrong. Traders know that before every devaluation, finance ministers have to tell untruths. Sometimes they mean what they say, sometimes they don't, but in any case they are not blamed. The markets are magnanimous in victory. And as Mr Lamont pointed out in his farewell, most ministers survive — some deservedly, like Sir Stafford Cripps; some not, like Anthony Barber. Mr Lamont falls into a rare category — insincere, but deserving.

The parity at which Britain joined the ERM was the result of John Major's monetary hair-shirt obsessions. It was some 30 pence above the rate Nigel Lawson had in mind before the inflation he inadvertently set off, and lacked credibility — as far

as the Bundesbank was concerned — from the day of its announcement. But he shared his sceptical thinking widely, so Mr Lamont was deferring a lost cause. The one great error in which he shared was not mentioned in his speech — the decision on the Wednesday itself to risk up to half our reserves to buy a little time for face-saving. He could have blamed his officials for the market misjudgment; he was advised that it should be possible to hold the line until the weekend.

But he shared in the political misjudgment. The government hoped the weekend would bring a general ERM realignment to hide its shame; this was never available. Mr Lamont must have known his friend Pierre Berégovoy better than that, but he failed to dissuade the prime minister.

If all that was forgivable in market terms, what happened in January was not. The decision to cut interest rates to 6 per cent finished him off, as he clearly admitted in his speech. It came



ANTHONY HARRIS

the day before a large gilt sale, and after strong official hints that rates would be held stable. Market-makers were caught short, but that would have blown over. What hurt was the general belief that the steers had been genuine, that the Chancellor was not planning a cut, and that it had been ordered by Mr Major, away on his Indian tour, when he read the morning cables. From then on, the City felt that Mr Lamont was not in charge.

You need only remember that Mrs Thatcher also held strong and often dictatorial views on interest rates, and the thing is clear. What both Chancellors have been seeking is only incidentally an independent Bank. What they really want is independence for themselves. All Chancellors have to develop a close working relationship with the Bank, and it is usually amicable. Lawson and Lamont doubtless imagined that an independent Bank would have pursued the strategies they shared

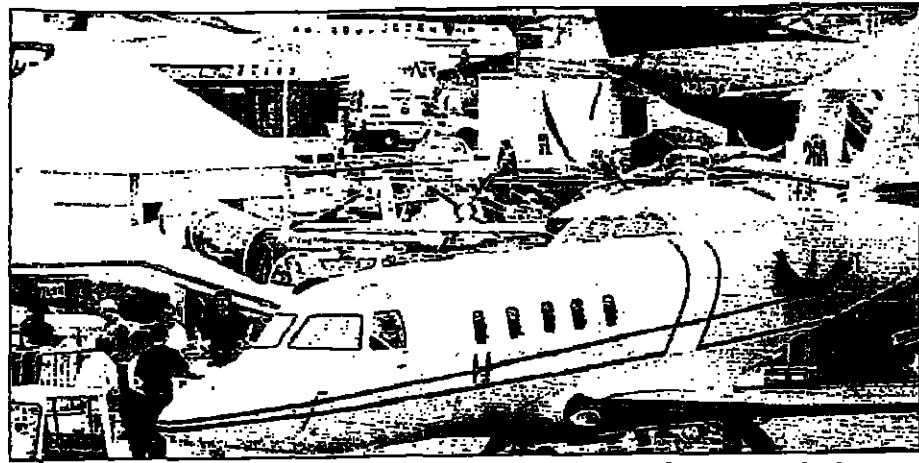
(and the Bank has clout even when nominally dependent). Policy would not have been disrupted by tactical forays from Number Ten.

The potential gains are clear: but this is still an odd moment to be preaching this text. The much-admired Bundesbank is now busy showing how badly things can go wrong when a central bank distrusts its own government. The fight is causing a European recession very like the US setback in the early 80s, when Paul Volcker was confronted with President Reagan's voodoo fiscal policy. It can be argued, indeed, that the prestige of independent central banks makes things worse, because it can tell politicians into thinking that they can safely cut corners.

A newly independent Bank of England might carry further risks. It would be tempted at first to prove its anti-inflationary verities, and generations of fighting have given it a bias towards gloom. In inflationary times, this might be harmless; if inflation is yesterday's story, as it was in the great British depression between the two world wars, the damage can be huge. Cautious City analysts believe that deflation rather than inflation is the menace of the 90s. More next week.



# BaE announces £500m Hawk contract with Indonesia



In the air: BaE reported Indonesia's order for 24 Hawks from the Paris show

By ROSS TIEMAN  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A £500 million order for 24 British Aerospace Hawk aircraft was signed by Indonesia yesterday to coincide with the opening of the Paris Air Show at Le Bourget. The contract reinforces the Hawk's place as the world's most successful advanced jet trainer. It will provide a year's work for BaE's Hawk production facilities at Brough, on Humberside and Warton in Lancashire, which already enjoy a strong order book.

More than £50 million of the contract value is likely to go to Rolls-Royce, which makes the Adour engine for the plane at Bristol.

John Weston, chairman and man-

aging director of British Aerospace Defence, said the deal was "excellent news for the industry and the employees involved with this most successful aeroplane".

Indonesia already has 20 two-seat Hawk 53 trainer aircraft purchased from BaE a decade ago. The latest purchases are likely to be the more advanced Hawk 100 version, which is lightly armed, and may include some Hawk 200 single-seat fighters.

There has been concern in some quarters about arms sales to Indonesia because of that country's bloody suppression of insurgents in East Timor. However, the British government, which vets all such sales, has obtained assurances that the aircraft will not be used to deal with internal

unrest. Purchasing the planes, which have an average price tag of some £12 million, will cost Indonesia around £300 million. The rest of the cash will be spent on spares, supporting equipment and training, which will be provided by BaE.

The contract is believed to include an option on a further 20 aircraft. Indonesian officials have indicated their desire to acquire up to 90 more Hawk planes. It is not clear to what extent such numbers form part of an internal campaign of lobbying. But a follow-on order would probably entail local assembly and some local manufacture.

BaE is also negotiating with India over potential Hawk sales and Saudi Arabia is expected to order up to 60

more. More than 700 of the single-engine planes have already been delivered or ordered by 14 countries.

However, two factors appear to have contributed to giving the aircraft a new lease of life. The US Navy has ordered a Hawk variant, containing about 50 per cent parts from the UK, from McDonnell Douglas, renewing its credibility as an up-to-date trainer. And BaE has developed it as a low-cost subsonic single-seat fighter, scoring sales in Malaysia and Oman.

The plane's success has helped underpin BaE's core defence activity despite losses elsewhere which have forced the group to undertake a painful restructuring. "The defence business has got a pretty solid order book now," said a BaE spokesman.

## Delors highlights split with Major over EMU

FROM TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

JACQUES Delors, the EC commission president, yesterday claimed that the monetary union process in Europe is alive and well. His comments appeared to be aimed at John Major, who, on Wednesday, had sought to convince the Commons that a single currency in Europe was little more than a pipedream.

Despite the misgivings of Germany, and new rumblings of discontent from France yesterday, M Delors still passionately believes that the timetable for a single currency as laid down by the Maastricht treaty holds good. Maastricht

says that the so-called "stage three" of economic and monetary union (EMU) — the setting up of a "Eurofed" central bank and a single currency — can happen, at the earliest, in 1997 or, at latest, 1999.

The prime minister is desperately trying to convince his European counterparts that the economic constraints stifling economic growth in Europe mean that the timetable will have to be scrapped.

M Delors was having none of that yesterday, saying: "Politics has to take economics into account. But let me stress that it is enough for seven

countries in Europe to accept a single currency by 1997."

M Delors now talks openly of a multi-speed approach to monetary union, with slower economies having to join later. "The commission is determined to apply the treaty to help the countries that wish to do this to do so," he said.

The contrasting comments from EC capitals on the EMU process make for an intriguing run-up to the Copenhagen summit of EC leaders in nine days' time. Mr Major, anxious to stop the issue from splitting his party, argues that EMU is stuck in a siding for the

moment. He told the Commons that EC economies were "not remotely ready".

Yesterday, Edouard Balladur, the French prime minister, gave some succour to Mr Major, but emphasised his commitment to EMU. "The whole point of treaties is that they should provide a framework for the movement of history, and reality doesn't always tally," he said. "The Maastricht treaty was put together at a moment when Europe's economies were not in the state they are in today."

However, M Balladur then spoke enthusiastically of a five-year programme to reduce the French budget deficit to 2.5 per cent of GDP by 1997. He advocated that other EC governments equally "assert order in their own affairs" to "re-establish financial equilibrium".

The two Frenchmen discussed stage two of EMU, scheduled to begin in January. This entails setting up a prototype EC central bank that would try to knit the economic policies of the 12 EC countries more closely together. Stage two will also be very much on the agenda at Copenhagen, which now promises to be a summit that could make or break the prime minister.

## France rejects 'bitty' Gatt deal

EDOUARD Balladur, the French prime minister, yesterday told Jacques Delors, the EC commission president, that the French government is not prepared to sign a "bit by bit" world trade deal (Tom Walker writes from Brussels).

M Balladur's outspoken remarks in Brussels ended any hope of a quick solution to the Uruguay Round of trade talks, which have rumbled on for six and a half largely inconclusive years. Although M Balladur

told M Delors that France still believed in a new deal on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), he said that it would have to be on European terms.

M Balladur said that too much blame had been put on France's volatile farming sector for the failure of the talks. "I have been trying everything I can to gain the idea that there are a few hundred thousand French farmers preventing prosperity breaking out in

the rest of the world," he said. There were other issues, which had to be dealt with "in a global way and not bit by bit".

The haughty air of the Gaullist's remarks irked EC officials, who tend to treat the Gatt issue with kid gloves. Ominously, M Balladur said that the agricultural dispute with the US was far from settled. The Blair House accord between the EC and the US "does not satisfy us", he said.



Building up: Joe Dwyer, the chief executive of George Wimpey, denies the rights issue is opportunistic

## Wimpey seeks £104m from shareholders

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

GEORGE Wimpey, one of Britain's biggest building groups, is raising £104 million from shareholders in a one-for-four rights issue.

The rights issue, the first since the company was founded more than 100 years ago, was initially welcomed by the market. It will fund expansion of the group's housing land bank and minerals operations.

The issue is at 148p, and the shares, after an initial lift, ended down 3p, at 184p.

Joe Dwyer, the Wimpey chief executive, said he believed that after a couple of

million. The stock market had been expecting a £40 million to £45 million cash outflow from the group during the current year, before a £20 million sale of a retail property.

Mr Dwyer denied the rights issue was opportunistic. But it comes little more than two months after Grove Charity Management, a family charitable trust, sold a 29 per cent stake in the company, retaining 5 per cent.

The move was widely seen as increasing Wimpey's ability to tap the market for fresh cash, after regular denials in recent years that this was an option.

Analysts were largely inclined to support the issue. Simon Brown, construction analyst at Strauss Turnbull said: "The group has got some good opportunities ahead of them on the housing and the land purchasing side."

Mr Dwyer said the housing side, which is expected to soak up most of the cash being raised, had seen a "significant upturn" since the start of 1993. Sales were up 55 per cent year-on-year, helped by increased business with housing associations. Private development sales, where Wimpey believes it can achieve margins of more than 20 per cent at current land prices, were 27 per cent ahead.

## Robots make waves for Northumbrian Water

By CARL MORTSHED

DIVERSIFICATION is proving a headache for the privatised water companies, and Northumbrian Water Group is no exception.

The Tyneside utility yesterday announced a 14 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £69 million, on a rise in turnover from £203 million to £252 million, but its non-core engineering and consultancy activities were hit by losses at Amtec Europe, a new subsidiary which surveys and repairs pipes, using robots.

David Cranston, chief executive, said that Amtec was not integrating well into the group, due to management

problems and a decline in the market place.

Turnover from the core water and sewerage company increased from £172 million to £189 million but pre-tax profits were up by a quarter to £48 million. Mr Cranston said that household bills might have to rise from an average £185 to £261 by the turn of the century if present water quality obligations are to be met. Gearing now stands at 14 per cent.

The dividend is up 10 per cent to 22.5p and is covered 4.5 times by earnings per share of 100.7p, up 19 per cent on the year.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Scapa Group makes record £47m profit

CURRENCY gains, past acquisitions and modest organic growth helped Scapa Group, the industrial materials company, lift full-year profits 5.3 per cent to a record £47 million in the year to end-March, despite tough trading conditions and competitive markets.

A 4.03p final (3.84p) increases the total to 5.63p (5.36p). Shareholders are offered an enhanced scrip dividend of 6.045p as an alternative to the final. BZW will buy new shares arising under the enhanced scrip dividend, guaranteeing at least 98 per cent of the enhanced scrip value, or a minimum of 5.924p. Bill Goodall, chairman, is to retire in October. He will hand over to Harry Tuley, currently Scapa's chief executive. David Dunn, finance director, will become managing director.

### Staveley rises

LOWER interest costs and increased market share helped Staveley Industries, the salt to weighting scales group, lift pre-tax profits by 9 per cent to £24.4 million in the year to April 3. Turnover rose by 16 per cent to a record £345 million, despite worldwide recession, with the UK particularly hard hit. Earnings climbed 6.6 per cent to 16.1p (15.1p) a share. A 6.2p final (5.9p) brought an increased total of 8.5p (8.2p) for the year.

### ACT has £25m net cash

ACT Group, the computer software and services company formerly known as Apricot, ended the financial year with net cash of £25 million despite acquisitions and investment in international operations. Pre-tax profits rose to £20.48 million (£17.02 million) on sales of £152.9 million (£119.44 million). Operating profits were £19.07 million. Earnings rose to 11.33p a share from 10.83p. The final dividend is 3.25p a share, making a total of 5p, up from 4.5p.

### Blacks dives into red

BLACKS Leisure, the camping-to-sportswear group, was hit by fierce price wars in its sports businesses, resulting in pre-tax losses of £564,000 (£3.7 million profit) in the year to end-February. Simon Bentley, chairman, said discounting at its height was as much as 25 per cent, but that Blacks' response was limited. There were losses of 1.63p per share against earnings of 9.82p a share last time, and the total dividend drops to 2.25p (3.35p) after a 1.5p final. Tempus, page 27

### Brown & Jackson call

BROWN & Jackson, which operates the Poundstretcher chain of stores, is raising £21 million through a rights issue. Half the cash is earmarked for opening 15 Poundstretcher stores this year and a further 45 next year. The rest will reduce bank borrowings. The group already operates more than 230 stores. The issue is being offered to investors on the basis of two new shares at 12p each for every five held. Existing shares traded at 14.2p, down 3p.

### Powerscreen thrives

EAST Asia's tiger economies and a strong performance in America and continental Europe have helped to improve the performance at Powerscreen International, the mechanical engineers. In the year to end-March, the company increased pre-tax profits by nearly 35 per cent to £25.3 million, compared with £18.8 million. Earnings per share moved up from 16.3p to 20.7p. A final dividend of 4.80p makes a total for the year of 6.6p (6p).

## INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

### HEAD OF EUROPEAN SALES

Our client, a young, fast-growing US-based software start-up company is seeking an individual to start our European sales office. We are currently working with major European based international organizations. Head of European Sales will initially work with these clients, expand our customer base, and recruit and expand European sales operations. Ideal candidate should have familiarity with client/server, distributed computing, OSI, DCE, OMIG CORBA and UNIX.

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صباح الخير

indonesia

## Slump in German car trade halves Pilkington profits

By Neil Bennett

PILKINGTON, the glass manufacturer, has cut its dividend for the second time in two years after the slump in the German car industry caused profits to fall by more than half.

Roger Leverton, the chief executive, said that the group would shed a further 2,000 jobs this year, mainly in Germany and America, in an attempt to reduce annual costs by another £70 million. This action comes after more than 9,000 job cuts in the past three years. The group is cutting its dividend for the year to end-March by a third to 4p, after profits fell by 58 per cent to £40.7 million. Two years ago, the dividend stood at a record 10.5p.

Sir Antony Pilkington, the chairman, said that the latest cut reflected the deterioration in the German economy, the group's largest single market which accounts for a third of operating profits.

German car output has fallen more than 20 per cent already this year and Pilkington is also coming under pressure from continental competitors in the flat glass market. Flat glass prices in Germany fell by 5 per cent in the first quarter of this year.

In contrast, Pilkington's operations in Britain are beginning to recover, mainly

Operations in Britain are beginning to recover and further price increases are possible, but mainland Europe is giving the glassmaker cause for concern

because of the fall in sterling and the recovery in the housing market. The group increased glass prices by 8 per cent last February and Sir Antony said the rise had been accepted by the market. Prices have also risen in America by 4 per cent.

Sir Antony said that glass prices in Britain could rise again this year, although the group is reducing its output by shutting one of its specialty glass lines in St Helens, Merseyside, for a year.

Pilkington's debts rose by £172 million during the year, which put gearing at 78 per cent. Since then, they have increased by more than £100 million, in the wake of the acquisition of the glass distribution assets of Heywood Williams. That put gearing at almost 90 per cent, a level that Mr Leverton said was too high.

The group said its negotiations to sell Sola, the glass lens manufacturer, were advanced and it was looking at a series of detailed bids. The disposal could raise up to £200 million to cut debts. Andrew Robb, the finance director, said the group wants to reduce gearing

to below 40 per cent, or less than £500 million, in the next two years through a series of disposals.

However, Mr Leverton ruled out a rights issue. "We need to address this balance sheet and the management needs to do it themselves rather than use further finance," he said.

In spite of the fall in profits, the group was cash positive in the second half for the first time since 1990, due to a fall in capital spending and working capital.

But Pilkington was hit by a 113 per cent tax charge because of heavy overseas tax payments and unrelieved advance corporation tax. This pushed the group into a retained loss for the year of £51.4 million.

Sir Antony said that it was too early to be optimistic about the current year. "It is not clear whether the recovery has any body to it. Germany is a severe setback. America and Britain are set to recover but not as strongly as we would have hoped."

Tempos, page 27

## City seeks changes to terrorism insurance

By Sarah Ragnall  
Insurance Correspondent

BUSINESS representatives plan to lobby the government for changes to the new terrorism insurance rating system, which they argue places an "unfair" burden of costs on City of London organisations.

A working party is being formed to try to convince the Department of Trade and Industry that the rate changes being forced through from July 1 should be amended from the start of 1994.

The group is expected to have representatives from the Confederation of British Industry, the Association of British Insurers, the Corporation of London, the British Insurers and Investment Brokers Association, Allianz, the risk managers, the British Property Federation and the British Retail Consortium.

John Pollard, policy adviser in the CBI's company affairs directorate, said: "It would be far more equitable to spread the burden more widely." Under the new rating scheme, City businesses face rate increases of up to 300 per cent, which means that "some companies face annual premiums on individual properties of up to £720,000 and will find it difficult to raise this kind of money without damaging their businesses", he said.

The working party is also expected to consider the current policy of "all or nothing", whereby a company has to buy cover for its entire property portfolio rather than being able to buy cover for selected buildings.

It will also consider whether companies should be allowed to continue to get discounts on premiums where there is a deductible, whether the £100,000 cover to small businesses as part of their normal commercial property policies is appropriate, whether the extra 10 per cent levy on insurance companies to top up Pool Re, out of which terrorism claims are paid, is at the right level and whether insurance brokers should receive commission on terrorism policies.



Reflected glory: Chris Masters is paying more from boosted earnings

## Salvesen drives up profits

By Carl Mortished

CHRISTIAN Salvesen, the distribution and power plant hire group, delivered underlying earnings growth of 11 per cent in the year to March 31, with all divisions ahead except brick manufacturing, which suffered a profits decline to £1.7 million.

Under the FRS3 accounting standard, profits grew 64 per cent to £76 million, with earnings per share almost doubled to 19p after restating the previous year's profits to include provisions of £21 million above the line.

Chris Masters, chief executive, chalked up 3.5 per cent more, at £20 million, on Salvesen's UK distribution business. Handling food and garment distribution for Marks and Spencer is the biggest part of the business, with 40th Salvesen trailers arriving every 15 minutes at M&S's giant Marble Arch store in London from the Salvesen depot in Neasden.

Distribution is now expanding from textiles and groceries to high-tech products for companies such as AEG, IBM and Agfa through Salvesen's new subsidiaries, Comtrans and Concorde. Aggreko, Salvesen's power hire company, increased trading profits by 19 per cent to £28 million.

Net borrowings were £42 million at the year-end, which puts gearing at 14 per cent. The dividend is up 11 per cent to 7.8p.

Tempos, page 27

## Scottish Hydro powers ahead

By Martin Waller, Deputy City Editor

THE wet weather and the start of production at Peterhead power station boosted pre-tax profits from Scottish Hydro-Electric, the smaller of the two Scottish power companies, from £122.7 million to £146.4 million in the year to end-March.

Volumes of electricity sold rose by 2.3 per cent, helped by a growing economy in the north of Scotland. Higher

than average rainfall raised water levels in reservoirs, to the benefit of the company's hydro-electric generation business, although the warmer than average winter served to depress sales.

Roger Young, the chief executive, estimated that the higher than normal rainfall probably put a few million pounds on to the profits line. That and the arrival at

Peterhead of gas from the Miller field served to push gross margins for the business as a whole ahead by 1.5 percentage points.

A 7.78p final dividend raises the total from 10.16p to 11.38p. Net interest payments fell from £27.9 million to £17.8 million, although there was a £12.5 million charge to cover the redemption of £116 million of government debt.

## Chubb Security locks away 64% increase

By Martin Flanagan

CHUBB Security's first full-year results since it was spun off from Racal Electronics last October showed a 64 per cent leap in taxable profits to £54.2 million (£39.1 million), with an eye-catching jump in margins in the increasingly important electronic security arm. The City marked the shares up 5p to 310p.

Sir Ernest Harrison, chair-

man, said that prospects looked promising because exceptional charges — £7.8 million this time, principally against 1,000 redundancies and associated reorganisation costs — would fall. Interest charges of £3.6 million in the year to end-March would also diminish, Sir Ernest said.

David Peacock, chief executive, said that the electronic security division had most growth potential, even though

its return on sales has already jumped in the past year from 7.6 per cent to 11.6 per cent. Operating profits of this division rose to £39.2 million (£26.2 million). The more traditional physical security division, such as locks and safes, made £36.4 million, against £27.1 million last time.

Chubb says that internal growth rather than acquisitions will be the keynote of the near future. "We now have a

super infrastructure and will try to make the most of what we have," Sir Ernest said.

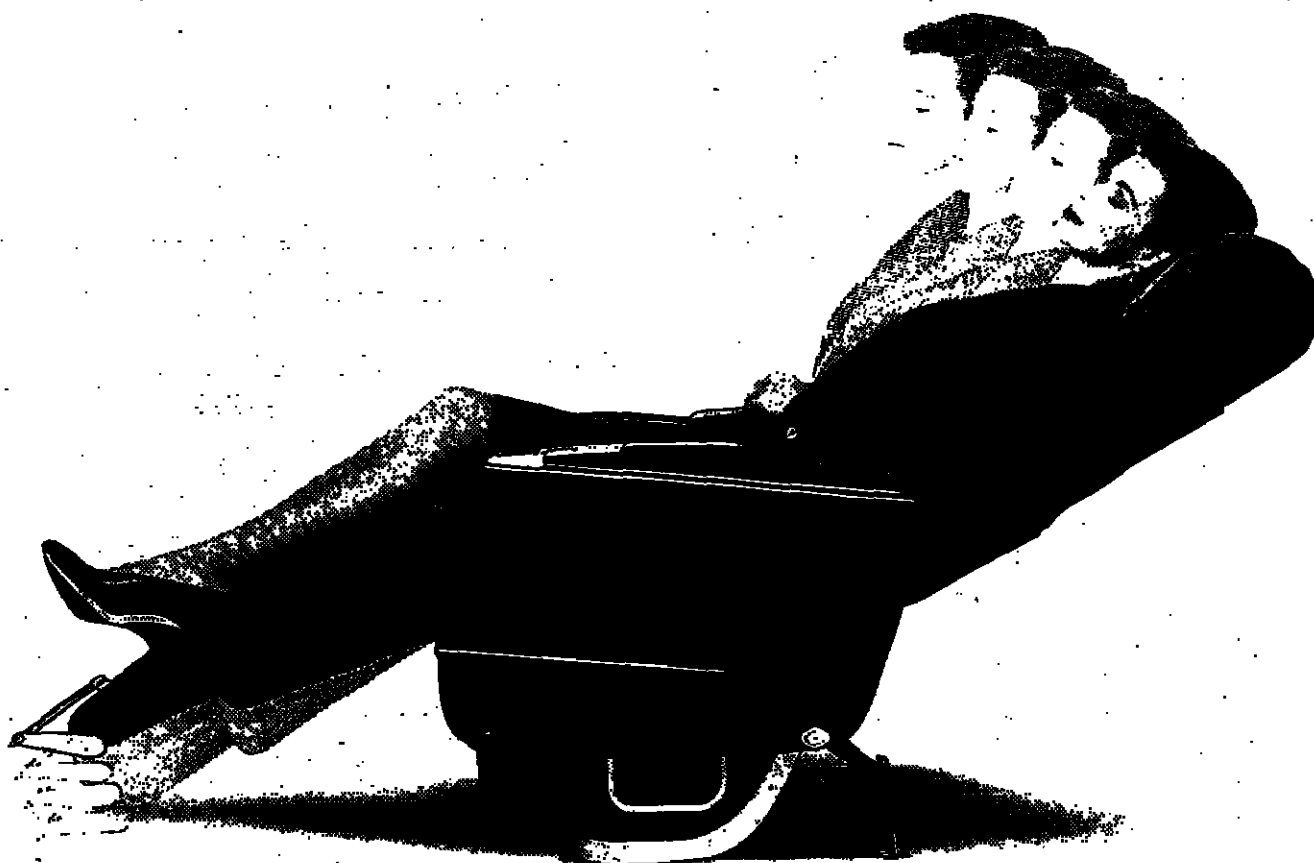
Three dozen products are to be launched in the next two years. The sales staff is being strengthened, with job cuts in other areas to rein in costs.

Earnings per share rose 92 per cent to 13.28p (6.93p). The total dividend is 4.75p, via a 3.25p final.

Tempos, page 27

BUSINESS FIRST

How MANY BUSINESS CLASS SEATS ARE  
CLEVER ENOUGH to have 1ST CLASS DEGREES?



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# Clinton and US economy will stand or fall together

**Wolfgang Münchau**  
finds that American consumers, one in four of whom fears for his job, are again behaving as they did in recession

The US economy has moved in tandem with the Clinton presidency: after the hubris of 1992, came the nemesis of 1993. If latest economic statistics are to be believed, the US economy has stopped recovering, and growth is just a whisker above zero.

The story of President Clinton's fall from grace has been told again and again. What, then, went wrong for the US economy? Is it just some temporary setback on the uneven road to recovery? Is there something fundamentally wrong, or something related to the woes that have befallen the president?

The early days of recovery have a tendency to send out misleading signals. In all this, there is a lesson for Europe, where the pre-occupation is presently not so much with the strength of recovery but with the depth of the recession.

From a European perspective, the most daunting aspect of the feeble US recovery must be this: the American economy remains weak almost two years after the official end of the recession even though the Americans did not commit any of the policy mistakes committed in Europe.

Unlike most European central banks, the Federal Reserve has adopted a flexible and responsive monetary policy, and began reducing interest rates early in the recession, cutting them progressively to 3 per cent and keeping them there to the present day.

The dollar, unrestrained by any exchange-rate commitments, was allowed to depreciate against the yen and European currencies. Since adoption of the "correct" policies did not prevent economic havoc in America, what will be the consequences of "incorrect" policies for Europe? Will it be even worse for Europe, and will it take Europe even longer than two years after the end of its recession before the onset of recovery?

Maybe it will, but maybe the American economic policy response to the recession was not nearly as "correct" as is generally believed. This does not imply a criticism of the Fed's monetary policy, since interest rates cannot, after all, be realistically cut to below zero. Since it would be difficult and unfair to fault US monetary policy, we are left with fiscal policy and the ephemeral notion of consumer confidence — and this brings us back to President Clinton and his economic programme.

In essence, the president was right in his original economic strategy, characterised by the dual approach of fiscal expansion in the short run, embedded in a medium-term policy to reduce the budget deficit. Unfortunately, the programme's arduous passage through both Houses of Congress has already emasculated one aspect of the plan —



In need of stimulus: the Senate is concentrating on deficit cutting

the economic stimulus package — and now threatens to alter the second aspect — the deficit reduction plan.

Given already is the short-term fiscal expansion element of the package, when the Republican minority in the Senate succeeded with a filibuster against Mr Clinton's \$16 billion economic stimulus bill. Another strand of the stimulus policy was supposed to have been a separate tax-credit programme, which is also as good as dead after pressure from so-called moderate Democrats. So, Congress has killed the entire expansion package.

Instead, the Senate is concentrating on the frugality aspect of the economic plan, and it seems that even Democrat-

ic senators these days cannot get enough spending cuts, while tax rises: especially sensible taxes such as the proposed environmentally-friendly energy tax, are rejected as incompatible with the American dream.

The combined effect of foregoing planned spending increases, while undertaking further spending cuts, probably in areas such as infrastructure or scientific investment, will not be without significance for economic growth in the US. There can be no question that reduction of the structural deficit remains of overriding importance for economic policy in the medium term,

but the embrace of structural reform should not cloud the need for cyclical policies as well. Monetary policy has already played its part, but with little effect — which is perhaps another lesson for those advocating such a course. The case for the use of fiscal policy is economically overwhelming, but Washington politics makes this, temporarily at least, impossible.

The tendency to raise spending during an economic boom and to cut it in a recession reflects the mindset of an accountant, not an economist. Economic history suggests that recovery usually follows some form of stimulus, although the nature of the stimulus can vary considerably. In the 1980s boom, the stimulus came from tax cuts and deregulation. Unfortunately, these were short-sighted, one-off options; an industry can be deregulated only once, a tax can be eliminated only once, or, where tax cuts have been made, there is now little leeway for more. In the 1930s, the impetus came from aggressive social spending. Pump-priming was particularly evident in the war economies of the 1940s, and later in the period of aid-induced reconstruction of Europe and Asia. This century is full of examples of stimulus-induced recoveries, including in periods when laissez-faire reigned supreme.

The only stimulus from deficit-cutting frugality is indirect, via the bond markets where expectations of lower future deficits have caused a fall of almost 1 per cent in the yield of long bonds to about 7 per cent. This also translated into lower mortgage rates and has boosted the housing market.

As part of this, the US economy remains unstimulated, and economic growth is dragged down by low consumer confidence, itself a reflection of an uncertain labour market. One in four Americans, according to a recent poll, fears that his is at risk, specifically from the introduction of new technologies. Such fears, coupled with continued evidence of downsizing accompanying the recent huge productivity gains in the US economy, add further to the uncertainty. After a pre-Christmas shopping spree in 1992, American consumers have returned to the behaviour they displayed during the recession.

The perceived weakness of the Clinton presidency is another factor that affects confidence, especially since Mr Clinton has made the American economy his political priority. It is no surprise that economic performance is in some ways reflected in the president's popularity ratings in polls.

The linking of those two factors may not, as yet, prove statistically significant, and is at best valid only temporarily. The comparison is, however, by no means frivolous. It was Mr Clinton's election victory and the general enthusiasm over a new era in politics that temporarily boosted the confidence of America as a nation and, indirectly, of Americans as consumers.

Mr Clinton and the American economy rise and fall together. They are both capable of a quick turnaround and a surprise comeback when one would least suspect it. However, as recent events have shown, they can also disappoint beyond belief.

## Wimpey homes in

TRY as he might, Joe Dwyer's attempts to dress Wimpey's rights issue as a push for growth ring hollow. The group desperately needs a cash injection to make good a likely outflow of £45 million this year and make up for the fact that its remaining properties in Britain and California are effectively unsaleable at decent prices in the current market.

One can hardly blame Wimpey for taking advantage of its storming share price. At an ex-rights price of 177p, the shares are trading on almost 15 times the City's tentative earnings forecasts for 1995. Meanwhile, the disposal of the bulk of the Grove charity stake last March removed the final barrier to Wimpey using its equity for the first time since it was listed 30 years ago.

The cash infusion will principally allow the group to repair its land bank. If it increases its

holdings to 20,000 units, it can increase its output to 8,000 homes a year. The increased sales can be handled through the group's existing regional network and the increased capital turn should begin to make the business cash generative. What remains of the funds will be sucked up by some long overdue capital spending in the American minerals business.

All this will leave Wimpey looking much more stable, but hardly a shining example in the construction industry. Even at 8,000 units, output will be only two-thirds the level of the late eighties. The group is still burdened by unattractive property assets and admits there will be no real upturn in contracting for another two years. However keen the City is to ride the housing market recovery, the shares are far ahead of events.

## Pilkington

PILKINGTON must be confident that it will receive a good price for its Sola lens business, since the group has net debts of more than £1 billion, gearing above 90 per cent and is still negotiating overseas acquisitions, yet categorically states it will not make a rights issue.

Attractive as it may be, Sola cannot be the only valuable asset Pilkington has for sale if it is serious about its intention to reduce gearing to 40 per cent within two years. Roger Leverton's reputation as the recently installed chief executive will stand or fall over such commitments.

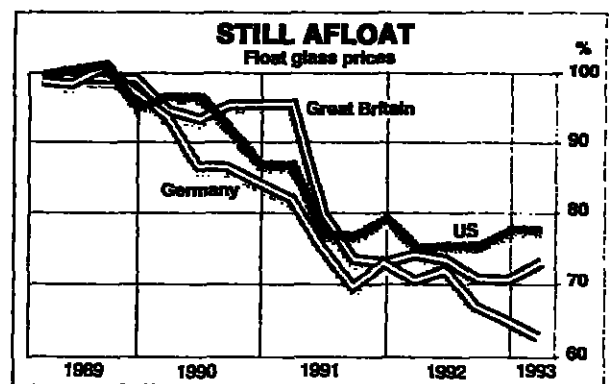
The dividend cut demonstrates that Pilkington is far less confident about its trading prospects than it is about its disposal programme. The market has marked up the shares vigorously this year on

the back of the recovery in British house and car sales, without acknowledging that the group's largest market is Germany, where trading is heading downward fast.

Despite the operational gearing, there will be no sudden recovery in Pilkington's fortunes. The recession on the continent will tempt rivals to undercut prices to

maintain production, so further price rises and market share gains will be difficult to achieve, despite currency advantage.

The fall in Pilkington shares yesterday suggests the City may have started to appreciate the task ahead. Unless a bidder is lurking, the shares are unlikely to make much further headway.



## Chubb

UNLOCKED from the ownership of Racal, Chubb has forged ahead with a leap in profit that has sent analysts surging to upgrade current-year forecasts by almost 10 per cent to £76 million.

Chubb has now completed "phase 1" of its restructuring programme, securing £23 million of profit improvements. "Phase 2", whose objectives include a 2 per cent increase in market share, is under way.

The task is not easy. Chubb already has a substantial 9.5 per cent share, although there is scope for improvement in some product areas such as guarding and fire detection products, where it is still relatively small. Even if Chubb does not quite get there, some success will generate strong earnings and dividend growth.

David Fencok, chief executive, is probably right to reject acquisition-led growth in the short term. But successful implementation of the "phase 2" strategy will gener-

ate quantities of cash. The group may find itself pulled on to the acquisition trail. Chubb's prospects are encouraging. But the prospective p/e ratio of more than 19 reflects the good news.

## Christian Salvesen

THE muted reaction to Christian Salvesen's figures stemmed from City anxiety over the trend of profits at its booming specialist hire business. Aggreko, which rents power units, has been the motor behind Salvesen's recent performance providing annual growth of 20 per cent.

There are now fears that Aggreko must eventually slow and the group will need to find a replacement to maintain its 10 per cent plus earnings growth.

Rapid growth is unlikely to come from British distribution, which is a reliable business delivering unspectacular growth. The potential for expansion lies in distribution in America and on the Conti-

nent. Specialist distribution in Britain is thought to be the most sophisticated in the world and Salvesen is keen to use its skill in America. It has made a start with a 22 per cent jump in dollar earnings — but continental prospects, particularly in France where the distribution network is more developed, may bring faster results.

## Blacks Leisure

SHAREHOLDERS in Blacks Leisure must feel as depressed as England's football fans — whatever the group does, it never seems to deliver a winning result.

After a chequered history, Blacks seemed to have begun to get it together. Its distribution agreements with Fila and LA Gear provided a platform for growth and the share price began to respond accordingly. Now it has been forced to sell its LA Gear business. With the outdoors retailing business suffering, the loss of a rare moneyspinner in Blacks' portfolio is unwelcome.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Al Fayed heads for the courts

MOHAMED AL Fayed is heading for the law courts in a bid to recover £222,600 he claims he is owed as commission for introducing Widnell, a firm of quantity surveyors, to the management of the Dorchester Hotel. The hotel's proprietor is the Sultan of Brunei, reputedly the world's richest man, whose name has been linked with Fayed's in the past. According to the trade magazine *Building*, the action follows a 1988 meeting at Fayed's apartment at which he claims he and Widnell agreed that he would get 10 per cent of any fees the company earned on every contract he introduced them to. The company is fighting the case. Al Fayed was a director of the Dorchester when it was closed for refurbishment from 1988 to 1990. But the tendering process whereby Widnell won the job was completed before this, informed sources insist. "Mr Al Fayed has a very good case which he is pursuing through the appropriate courts," says Michael Cole, spokesman for Al Fayed's House of Fraser.

### Fine line

DEFIANT and morally assured, convicted insider dealer Ivan Boesky is likely to forfeit about a third of the \$20 million house and the weekly allowance he won in court from his wealthy ex-wife on Wednesday. Preparing to fine comb the settlement is the Dallas-based oil exploration company Maxus, which has settled with Boesky over a 1987 insider dealing case under which he agreed to pay them \$50 million. But Maxus

is expected to get only 35 per cent of the divorce settlement, or about \$7 million. A Maxus spokeswoman said the figure may be higher depending on the details of the settlement and prospects for Boesky's future earnings. Boesky said in court he may have come by his fortune illegally and improperly, but not immorally. "I'm a very moral person," he told the court. But the former Mrs Semma Boesky chose other words, calling her former husband a "rat" whose criminal conviction and reputation ruined her life.

### One too many

MERCURY is having great fun with the name of its new portable telephone network. A couple of months ago the Cable and Wireless subsidiary announced the business, a joint venture with US West, would be called Mercury One 2 One. "The reason we chose it is to get across what mobile personal communication is all about," a helpful spokeswoman explains. Unfortunately, the name One-to-One has also been chosen by a number of

other businesses. At least one, and Mercury itself, now suspects there are more, is also in an area which might broadly be described as mobile personal communications — the provision of young women to escort gentlemen who find themselves dining out without female companionship. "I think there are a lot of those sort of organisations," Mercury tactfully admits.

### Non-vintage

WALL Street yesterday restrained itself from offering a cork-popping welcome to the man said to have put California's Napa Valley wine making region on the map. The stock market debut of Robert Mondavi Winery managed only once to inch its way above the \$13.50 offer price and within hours was trading at a discount. The lukewarm reception belied a lack of enthusiasm for Mondavi's prospects and a 95 per cent voting stranglehold which the family maintains over the company.

### Distilled water

NORTHUMBRIAN Water is to keep and even enhance its environmental boardroom credentials after the retirement of its respected landowner chairman Sir Michael Straker, an active farmer as well as current chairman of the Water Services Association. His designated successor, Professor Sir Frederick Holliday, is a former chairman of the Nature Conservancy Council and as a zoology professor was an expert in marine and river life. Sir Michael will stay on as non-executive chairman of the group's water utility company.



Al Fayed: commission

MELINDA WITTSTOCK

### When a handshake needs approval

From Mr Martin Winter Sir, There is an important gloss on Ralph Instone's remarks concerning directors' golden handshakes ("Put golden handshake to the vote", June 8).

Broadly speaking under English law, and subject to certain exceptions, bona fide payments by way of damages for breach of a director's service contract through early termination do not require shareholder approval. Further payments do require such approval.

However, contractual damages under English law must normally take account of the injured party's duty to mitigate his loss. He cannot simply remain inactive and expect to recover the full amount of his loss.

In an employment context, this means that an executive must seek to reduce his loss by, if possible, obtaining a new job. A highly employable director may therefore be able to reduce the claim substantially by obtaining fresh employment. Even a less employable director, with a two or three year unexpired term under his service agreement, may well be able to obtain fresh employ-

ment at a reasonable salary in the course of the two or three years following severance. In those circumstances, any full payout of the contract may be something that, even under the current law, would require formal shareholder approval. This is because due consideration has to be given to potential mitigation.

Accordingly, a proposed full payout of a service contract over its unexpired term should not automatically be regarded as requiring no sanction from shareholders, since it may not amount to a bona fide payment. Clearly, it is in the interests of neither the company nor the director concerned to pitch the payment at an amount which risks being set aside.

In addition, boards and their advisors should consider whether it is appropriate to make a discount for accelerated receipt and to review the tax treatment of such payments, to ensure they remain bona fide settlements. Yours faithfully, M. A. S. WINTER Biddle & Co, Solicitors, 1 Orestham Street, EC2.

### Improving business relations with South Korea

From the Chairman of the Anglo-Korean Society Sir, As chairman of the Anglo-Korean Society, I have a responsibility to clear up some inaccuracies in the article on South Korea which you published on June 8.

Colin Narbrough paints a misleading picture of the present state of UK/Korea relations and British government priorities towards that country. Far from being "wary of doing business" with Korea, the UK is mounting a major initiative to improve business and other relations.

On the trade side, there were major government-supported promotions in Seoul by the airports, water treatment and consumer goods industries at the time of the visit by the Prince and Princess of Wales last November, followed up by a series of substantial promotions this year covering high technology and investment, as well as the growing consumer market.

It is wrong to present the UK as not being serious about the Tajon Expo. We were among the first countries to sign up for it. It has the full support of the British government and many British companies. I am sure that we shall see at least one of our senior ministers visiting it and I know that our ambassador in Seoul has already arranged to visit it 19 times.

I am, incidentally, surprised that your correspondent talked about Richard Needham "bussing out" Korea from his tour of South East Asia, with a large business group, last week.

This was for the very good reason that he made a special

visit to Korea, again with a strong party of businessmen, in April.

Besides a busy bilateral programme promoting UK exports and attacking the remaining protectionist barriers which your correspondent mentions, Mr Needham also played a leading part in the inaugural meeting for the UK/Korea Forum for the Future of which I am chairman. The forum's purpose is to build up personal contacts

between senior businessmen, politicians and other decision-makers in both countries. If your correspondent is interested in a more accurate reflection of what the UK and Korea are doing together, he should talk to some of the forum members.

Yours faithfully, SIR JOHN MORGAN Chairman, Anglo-Korean Society, 218-226 Kingsland Road, E2.

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

# Swansea Marina

Swansea City Council is currently reviewing various options regarding the future operation and development of this Award Winning Marina facility which is situated at the heart of the City's prestigious Maritime Quarter.

Expressions of interest are invited from individuals, companies or organisations with a proven and successful track record in Marina operation and/or management for this established 350 berth Marina on the South Wales Coast, which has great potential for expansion and development.

For a preliminary discussion and further information, telephone Nigel Carnie, Assistant City Estate Agent on 0792 302308. Written expressions of interest should be forwarded to: Mr N A Carnie, Assistant City Estate Agent, Swansea City Council, The Guildhall, Swansea, SA1 4PE.

**City of SWANSEA**  
*Quality for Life*

Times 11/06/93

Letters to the Business and Finance section of The Times can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.







# Earlier losses halved

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began June 7. Dealings end June 18. Settlement day June 21. Settlement day June 28. Shareholders are permitted on two previous business days. Prices reported are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

## Portfolio Plus

From your Portfolio Plus card check your share price movements on this page. Add them up to give you your overall dividend figure. If it matches your latest dividend statement, you are all set. If you find a discrepancy, follow the daily price money on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Category	Gain or Loss
1	Wills Carron	Insurance	1.00
2	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
3	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
4	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
5	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
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56	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
57	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
58	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
59	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
60	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
61	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
62	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
63	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
64	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
65	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
66	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
67	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
68	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
69	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
70	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
71	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
72	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
73	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
74	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
75	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
76	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
77	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
78	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
79	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
80	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
81	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
82	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
83	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
84	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
85	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
86	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
87	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
88	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
89	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
90	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
91	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
92	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
93	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
94	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
95	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
96	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
97	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
98	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
99	Woolworth	Retail	1.00
100	Woolworth	Retail	1.00

Please take into account any bonus signs

There were no valid claims for yesterday's Portfolio Plus prize. The £2,000 will be added to today's game.

Farwell Portfolio, page 13

1993 High Low Company Price + - % Yld % P/E

### BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

No	Company	Price	+ -	%	Yld	%	P/E
1	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
3	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
4	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
5	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
6	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
7	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
8	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
9	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
10	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
11	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
12	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
13	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
14	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
15	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
16	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
17	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
18	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
19	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
21	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
22	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
23	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
24	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
25	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
26	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
27	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
28	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
29	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
30	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
31	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
32	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
33	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
34	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
35	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
36	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
37	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
38	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
39	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
40	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
41	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
42	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
43	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
44	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
45	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
46	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
47	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
48	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
49	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
50	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
51	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
52	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
53	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
54	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
55	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
56	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
57	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
58	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
59	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
60	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
61	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
62	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
63	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
64	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
65	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
66	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
67	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
68	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
69	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
70	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
71	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
72	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
73	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
74	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
75	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
76	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
77	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
78	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
79	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
80	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
81	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
82	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
83	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
84	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
85	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
86	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
87	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
88	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
89	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
90	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
91	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
92	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
93	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
94	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
95	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
96	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
97	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
98	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
99	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
100	Woolworth	1.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

### BREWERIES

496	317	Allied-Signal	525	-7	-11	47	27
497	318	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
498	319	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
499	320	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
500	321	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
501	322	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
502	323	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
503	324	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
504	325	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
505	326	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
506	327	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
507	328	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
508	329	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
509	330	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
510	331	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
511	332	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
512	333	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
513	334	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
514	335	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
515	336	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
516	337	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
517	338	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
518	339	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
519	340	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
520	341	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
521	342	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
522	343	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
523	344	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
524	345	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
525	346	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
526	347	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
527	348	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
528	349	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
529	350	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
530	351	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
531	352	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
532	353	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
533	354	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
534	355	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
535	356	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
536	357	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
537	358	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
538	359	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
539	360	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
540	361	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
541	362	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
542	363	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
543	364	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
544	365	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
545	366	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
546	367	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
547	368	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
548	369	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
549	370	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
550	371	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
551	372	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
552	373	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
553	374	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
554	375	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
555	376	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
556	377	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
557	378	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
558	379	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
559	380	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
560	381	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
561	382	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
562	383	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
563	384	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
564	385	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
565	386	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
566	387	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
567	388	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
568	389	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
569	390	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
570	391	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
571	392	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
572	393	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
573	394	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
574	395	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
575	396	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
576	397	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
577	398	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
578	399	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
579	400	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
580	401	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
581	402	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
582	403	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
583	404	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
584	405	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
585	406	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
586	407	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
587	408	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
588	409	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
589	410	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
590	411	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
591	412	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
592	413	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
593	414	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
594	415	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
595	416	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
596	417	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
597	418	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
598	419	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
599	420	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
600	421	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
601	422	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
602	423	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
603	424	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
604	425	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
605	426	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
606	427	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
607	428	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
608	429	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
609	430	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
610	431	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
611	432	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
612	433	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
613	434	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
614	435	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
615	436	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
616	437	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
617	438	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
618	439	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
619	440	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
620	441	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
621	442	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
622	443	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
623	444	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
624	445	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
625	446	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
626	447	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
627	448	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
628	449	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
629	450	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
630	451	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
631	452	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
632	453	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
633	454	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
634	455	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
635	456	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
636	457	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
637	458	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
638	459	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
639	460	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
640	461	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
641	462	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
642	463	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
643	464	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
644	465	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
645	466	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
646	467	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
647	468	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
648	469	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
649	470	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
650	471	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
651	472	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
652	473	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
653	474	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
654	475	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
655	476	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
656	477	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
657	478	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
658	479	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
659	480	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
660	481	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
661	482	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
662	483	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
663	484	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
664	485	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
665	486	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
666	487	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
667	488	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
668	489	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
669	490	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
670	491	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
671	492	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
672	493	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
673	494	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
674	495	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
675	496	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
676	497	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
677	498	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
678	499	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
679	500	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
680	501	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
681	502	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
682	503	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
683	504	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
684	505	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
685	506	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
686	507	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
687	508	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
688	509	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
689	510	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
690	511	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
691	512	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
692	513	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
693	514	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
694	515	Alcoa	525	-7	-11	47	27
695	516	Alcoa	525	-7	-11		



## INFOTECH

## Multimedia breaks through

Mixed information systems seem finally to be on the verge of general acceptance, Matthew May writes

Long talked about but yet to be widely seen in office or home, the concept of multimedia — which mixes text, video and sound using communications and computer power — may finally be starting on the road to mass acceptance.

Next week, for example, the Canadian telecommunications equipment supplier Northern Telecom will show to the public what it claims is the first commercially available desktop multimedia communications system. It will be on display at a show devoted to the topic of multimedia at Earl's Court, west London.

The system, called Visit, will face almost immediate competition after an announcement of a similar product this week by British Telecom and IBM — although this incarnation is being described as a personal computer videophone. It will go on sale from September.

Though such facilities are already available, the new systems are packaged more simply for use on PCs and are becoming cheaper as the price of the technologies utilised falls.

The companies hope that because they have been able to keep down the starting price to £3,000 or £4,000, companies will be interested in the idea of using the facilities for everyday business tasks rather than, as at present, largely specialist ones. The idea behind this form of multimedia is that it will enable PC users to hold meetings and share information without leaving their desks. If this sort of workgroup collaboration takes off, it will greatly improve the ability of people to telework from home.

Both systems use video cameras that allow users to see as well as talk to each other, just as in the straightforward videophone products that are starting to appear. But because multimedia systems use PC screens, seeing other callers is only part of what can be done.

Other features include the idea that documents in the form of shared computer files can be simultaneously shown on windows within the screen so that they can be jointly updated, edited and swapped by both callers. The camera can also be used to send pictures of objects or diagrams.



See here: Northern Telecom's Visit system allows viewers in different offices to discuss the same image

The packages include software and video camera, and a card that plugs into the expansion slot of a PC. Customers will have to be connected to the digital ISDN telephone network, although Northern Telecom's system will also work over its Meridian PBX. Northern Telecom says that PC videophones will eventually change business activity as much as the telephone, photocopier or fax machine has.

"Speech only on the phone, text, and image only on computer, will over time be seen as obsolete," says Pat Way, the director of new technologies for P&P, the company selling the Visit system in Britain.

There are estimated to be more than a million PCs in business use in Britain and, given enough demand, prices for such packages could fall below £1,000 within a few years. "The system breaks down the barriers of distance by allowing people — no matter how many miles sepa-

rate them — to work together as though they were sitting across the table from one another," says David Southworth, P&P's group managing director.

Changing the office desktop is one thing but an even bigger push is being prepared that will try to



Watching the detective: crime game on CD

convince millions of people that they need multimedia in the home.

The ability to mix software, video footage and sound is resulting in new games that incorporate full-motion video, blurring the line between software and film production.

The result is growing links between the entertainment business and the computer and telecommunications industries. The Consumer Electronics Show, held in Chicago last week, was dominated by companies promoting their plans for multimedia. Forty companies showed multimedia products double the number of last year.

Paramount Pictures, for example, announced that it will begin to release feature films on 5in CD-I compact discs, a multimedia system being pioneered by Philips.

CD-I players, which plug into a television set, can mix video, sound, graphics and text and play ordinary audio CDs, as well as photo CDs, which display still photo-

graphs. With the addition of a special cartridge to go on sale later this year, the players will be able to handle the full-motion video of films.

The two companies are also looking at interactive CD-I films. With these, viewers can affect how a plot develops. Philips is already developing an interactive game called *Voyeur*. Like other games in preparation, it uses hired actors in film clips. In *Voyeur* they pop up on screen as and when the player, who is cast as a detective, explores different rooms in a house to try to solve a murder.

Those behind promoting multimedia in the home believe that if it can be made to appeal to both adults and children, it will take off. Philips admits that the *Voyeur* title will be aimed at an adult audience and contain scenes unsuitable for young children.

While popular films are often aimed at adults, computer games are seen as largely an activity for children. Mixing the two is likely to become a problem if games that are supposedly aimed at adults actually end up being bought or used by children.

The CD-I format is likely to face fierce competition later this year. What many considered the highlight of last week's show was the introduction of a powerful games machine that is claimed to deliver 50 times the graphics-animation performance of current personal computers and video game systems.

Priced at \$700 (about £460), it is produced by 3DO, a Silicon Valley company backed by Matsushita, Time-Warner and AT&T. It is described as an interactive multi-player and merges the capabilities of a video-cassette recorder, personal computer and video-game player.

The Californian company's first version of the machine, due to go on sale in America in October, will be compact-disc based. Another version from AT&T, connected to its phone network, is planned for 1994.

The state of the games market now is like that of the movie business in the Keystone Kop era, according to Judy Lange, the president of Crystal Dynamics of San Francisco, which is preparing air and space combat games for 3DO. The next two years, she says, "are going to revolutionise the games business."

Early reviews of the 3DO system have been mostly positive although some analysts think that the cost is still too high. Similarly while many like what can be done on a CD-I player, the £500 price tag will have to drop sharply if it is to take off.

## Intel wins 386 case

AFTER an appeals court ruling, Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) has lost its right to manufacture a clone of Intel's popular 386 microprocessor.

AMD has been selling about 12 million cloned 386 chips per year since 1991, forcing Intel to cut the price of its own 386 products. Intel also responded by urging personal computer makers to switch to the more powerful 486 and its recent Pentium chip.

The California appeals court ruled that a court-appointed arbitrator exceeded his authority in giving AMD the right to sell its own copy of the 386 chip.

## Newton's rules

APPLE Computers, looking for ways to accelerate its move into consumer electronics, has teamed up with three telecommunications giants to push its hand-held Newton electronic device.

The agreements with Bell South, Ameritech and US West call for the three "Baby Bells" to provide communications services on Apple's products. Apple promises to start delivery of the Newton, produced by Sharp, this summer. It will use digital technology to offer some of the capabilities of a calculator, fax, PC and telephone.

## Hard software

EUROPE's computer software firms may be winning a long-running battle against software piracy.

The Business Software Alliance says that losses from illegal copying of software fell in Europe last year to £3 billion, from a peak of £3.5 billion reached the year before. It estimates that worldwide losses total £7.5 billion.

Several factors lie behind the reduced software piracy, including the completion of an EC software directive, which has strengthened copyright laws throughout member states.

Marketing campaigns by

local software associations, which raised awareness of the benefits of original software and more legal actions to enforce copyright laws also played a part.

## Watch this space

IF YOU are a television viewer who lacks the energy even to search for the remote control, a Japanese company plans to sell a wristwatch that can change the channels or fast-forward the VCR for you.

Buttons on the edge of the ¥9,500 (£57) digital watch can perform all the basic functions of a usual remote control, says the manufacturer, Casio Computer.

Users of the watch have to enter a code representing the kind of television they are watching. If the proper code is entered, the watch can be used with most leading brands of television and VCR. The watch will go



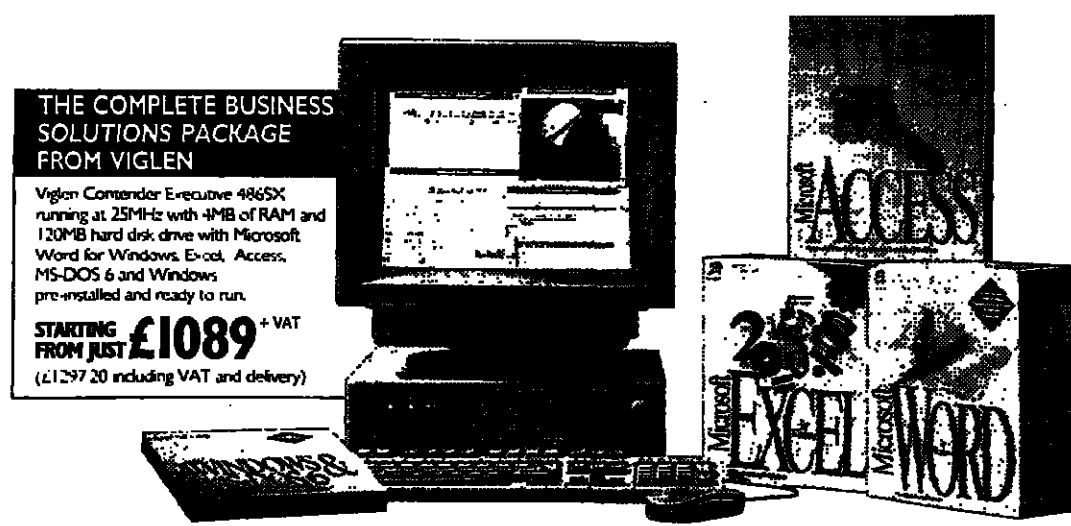
on sale in Japan and America by September.

## Sky games battle

THE sky is the limit in the computer-game battle — literally. Japan Airlines is to replace Nintendo machines with Sega games on its major international routes from July.

JAL will install games with five-inch colour monitors in each of its planes operating between Tokyo and New York, London, Paris and San Francisco, and provide six kinds of game software, including Sega's Sonic the Hedgehog 2, mahjong and golf. Passengers can bring their own software as well.

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## Plug-in your PC to the fax

A better standard for the office

Dozens of office equipment makers this week backed the launch of new technology which will simplify communication between personal computers, fax machines, printers, copiers, scanners and telephones.

Microsoft, the giant computer software publisher, has developed software standards — or interfaces — that allow office machinery to be run from personal computers using its Windows operating system.

A worker writing a document on a computer, for instance, could click on a Windows copying machine icon and instantly order 100 copies. That one step would replace the need for manual printing and copying.

"Fax copiers and scanners have been in the second tier of office equipment," Ann Palermo, an analyst at the research firm IDC, says. "They've been on the B team and they've just been called up to the big leagues."

Bill Gates, the Microsoft chairman, says "We've been working on this for years. We wanted to make sure we had the demos and the critical mass of partners at the time we brought it out."

Executives from Compaq, Hewlett-Packard, Ricoh, NEC, Northern Telecom and Xerox have appeared with Mr Gates to back the standard.

The first machines equipped with the standard will be ready by late this year and most companies will deliver products before next summer, Mr Gates said.

A "Microsoft at Work" logo will be stuck on such machines, just as the "Dolby" trademark appears on stereos with noise reduction features.

For small or home offices, the development could eliminate the overlapping functions of three separate pieces of equipment. People will soon be able to buy a personal computer which prints, faxes and copies, all in one device.

For the larger workplace, the technology could also allow office equipment functions to be customised. The output of a law firm's fax machine, for instance, could be reflected on a PC that automatically bills clients.

"To me, it's kind of amazing this hasn't happened before," Mr Gates says.

"But device-makers have a hard time working with each other and it really takes kind

of a software approach to do these things."

Few companies besides Microsoft have the power to drive an industry standard. The company, with an annual

revenue in excess of \$4 billion — more than £2.5 billion — leads the PC business because its DOS system had the right partners.

But "Microsoft is in the driver's seat," says Bill Gott, a director of market research at InfoCorp in California.

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# Workflow can put you in the picture

Office workers may find that they need no longer get out of their chairs to search in-trays, shelves and filing cabinets for correspondence, invoices and other paper documents.

Thanks to a new technology, document image processing, such information is likely to be available at the touch of a button on a desktop computer screen.

This technology involves visually scanning pieces of paper and storing their contents on optical disc or microfilm as pictures built up of millions of tiny dots. The equivalent of about 10,000 A4 sheets can be held on one roll of microfilm, and even more on an optical disc. By archiving the discs in electronic "juke boxes", it is possible to summon one of millions of images to a desktop personal computer in seconds.

Industry analysts believe such systems will be as important to business computing in the 1990s as word-processing was in the last decade.

BIS Strategic Decisions, a market research company, is forecasting growth of about 60 per cent for this year and expects the systems market to be worth more than £250 million by 1996.

Many industries in Britain have begun to experiment with document image processing and large systems are now being installed with up to 700 terminals, says Peter Tobias, the group manager for office automation at BIS. The cost ranges from as little as £12,000 to hundreds of thousands. "Wherever you see a four-drawer filing cabinet there is a potential application

**The paper-less office has come another step closer to reality, writes Jane Bird**

for this technology," Mr Tobias says.

At present, the biggest users are financial services companies, airlines and industries with a hefty requirement for storing drawings. One such is the Aberdeen-based Total Oil Marine, which generates thousands of drawings in the maintenance of its oil and gas processing plants.

Last October, the company installed a 44-screen system

on which it aims to store 100,000 drawings by the end of the year, and a further 50,000 by 1995.

Nick Baker, head of quality engineering at the company, says: "As we get more plant, the amount of documentation increases. We felt imaging was the only way we could effectively manage what for us is a very valuable resource."

But like many companies that install such systems, it is taking the technology further than just storage and retrieval. It also wants to improve its efficiency in plant modification by tracking the flow of drawings throughout the org-

anisation. The electronic tracking of documents in this way is known as workflow, and is fast becoming one of the leading applications for document image processing.

"Workflow lets us manage this information round the system and know exactly where it is at any one time," Mr Baker says. "It lets us control change far more accurately and push it through much faster."

The company's goal is to reduce the time taken to document plant modifications from about six months to a few weeks. It also benefits from improved security — pieces of paper can be stolen, copied or lost.

And photocopying requirements are heavily reduced. Previously, about 25 copies of each drawing were made for every change. It is not necessarily easy to exploit the potential of such systems; huge organisational change can be required. Companies need to conduct a full business re-engineering exercise, re-training staff and possibly cutting out unnecessary layers of paper-pushing middle managers. This is one reason why the technology has been slower to take off than expected.

However, the result can be a much more efficient workforce as demonstrated in America, where it has been more rapidly adopted. One bank is said to have increased business by more than half while a leading insurance company cut the time to process claims from nine days to less than eight hours.

In Britain, companies are



Under control: Nick Baker can keep track of thousands of engineering documents

much more cautious, says Geoff Wingar, general manager of Viewstar, which supplies software for such systems. "Companies here tend to test the technology on a departmental level rather than going over to it completely from day one, which is what happens in the US." This means that they need systems with plenty of capacity to grow.

But it is very easy to get blinded by science in selecting a system. Making the right choice depends on factors such as how rapidly information needs to be accessed and how long it needs to be kept.

Magnetic tape is fast but can be pricey, at around 5p for each A4 document. Erasable optical discs are cheaper at

1.2p per A4 page, but if you have a vast amount of information to store, microfilm may be the best answer, at only 0.1p per page. Microfilm also lasts indefinitely, while magnetic and optical media have to be recycled after 25 years.

Another factor to consider is how frequently the document will be needed.

Estimates suggest that up to 99 per cent of documents are never retrieved. There is also a much greater likelihood of needing to recall a document during the first few weeks of its life, with a further peak after one year. Therefore, it often makes sense to hold documents temporarily on optical disc then transfer them to microfilm.

The legal status of documents is also a consideration. Paper and microfilm are acceptable by courts as evidence but digital data can run into problems if it is judged that it could have been easily altered.

And if the documents have to be kept for many years, it is worth bearing in mind how quickly technology becomes obsolete. Few documents created on the PCs of the 1970s can be read by today's standard desktop machines.

● An exhibition and conference on document management and optical information systems, Document Management '93, will take place at Wembley Exhibition Centre from June 15-17. Further information from Meckler on 071-976 0405.

## End to the paper chase

Advances in technology and the falling cost of computers have brought new applications into the realm of the small systems user.

One such application is document image processing, which is now available on all sizes of computer from mainframe to PC. In the past, typical customers have included engineers, draughtsmen, financial institutions and the legal profession, where the need to keep original copies of a document for future reference is a major requirement.

A construction engineering company, for example,

expensive. Mark Churchward, Olivetti's divisional manager of document management, argues that the savings can more than outweigh the cost of the investment.

Royal Life Insurance is a user of the system, which it introduced about four years ago when the technology was still in its infancy. Alex Littlejohn, Royal Life's IT manager, believes they will become essential for companies that have to shuffle around vast amounts of paper.

Although he believes such systems are "not as cheap as they could be", he says that Royal Life has

made considerable savings. The company uses its systems to record and retrieve details of 20,000 executive pensions and Mr Littlejohn estimates that document image processing has cut the staffing in the area by 20 per cent.



In all, Royal Life has something like 2.5 million files, all but a small fraction still paper based. "Obviously one could not go and back record 2.5 million files," Mr Littlejohn says. One of the advantages of an imaging system is that database indexing allows a user to keep track of each file. Royal Life looked at colour coding each of its 2.5 million paper-based files for easier access, but discovered that each individual file folder would cost about £1. "You can buy an awful lot of imaging systems for £2.5 million," Mr Littlejohn says.

SEAN HALLAHAN

## Putting image to paper

Put simply, document image processing systems convert paper files into electronic computer files, which can be manipulated more easily and efficiently, using a variety of different technologies. These can cost from a few thousand pounds to tens of thousands.

Choosing the right elements can be tricky and complex. You may prefer instead to try to make apples fall upwards.

Proper business planning is the secret to successful implementation of this quite sophisticated technology and it can often take more time to analyse and understand the problem than to find the solution. Identifying which of the elements being sold with a typical system are actually needed can be equally important.

"We did it the hard way, learning by trial and error," says Roger Healy, business manager at PowerGen, the electricity generator. "There was an awful lot of pain. The technology was sitting there, but we were not clear how people wanted to use it. There was a lot of confusion at first. It's only when you get the thing and discover its shortfalls, that you begin to realise what you really want. It's often something a few steps on."

A desktop computer and scanner are the basic building blocks but even here systems can vary enormously from small basic combinations of the two technologies, which also use special software to index information once it is inside the computer. A scanner provides a means of getting information into the computer system and works

**Document processing is expensive and can be difficult. But careful planning should provide solutions**



Plan well: Roger Healy, an IT business manager

like a small photocopier, usually reading only a page of text at a time. Larger, high-speed variants can flick through hundreds of pages in seconds. Software programs that per-

form the retrieval process can now cost under £1,000. So a basic scanner system could be put together for £5,000 to £10,000; higher-end systems from about £60,000.

Although the monitors now sold as standard with an average PC can be used for looking at image-processed images, a higher-resolution screen may be a good idea if the system is in constant use.

Bigger than normal computer screens, it can provide something like a television picture of the original document. Typically, this would be an A4 portrait monitor, although a dual-page — usually 19in — monitor can be used for displaying A3-size pages.

Storage is also a big consideration. Images take up a lot of space and can quickly become big files, sometimes ten times bigger than a conventional word-processing file.

"Though information can be squeezed into a smaller space using compression technol-

ogy, many customers decide that the extra capacity of an optical disc, rather than a conventional computer hard disc, is needed.

Optical discs look like record platters and may be slow. But they store large amounts of information and are inexpensive compared with high-capacity hard discs.

One 5¼in optical disc can hold 80 million bytes of data, the equivalent of the contents of a large filing cabinet full of pictures. In addition any basic computer system should conform to conventional standards and though some image-processing systems will work happily on a 386 desktop, others will need the more powerful 486.

However, an increasing number of systems have to accommodate large numbers of people who need to access a central store of archived information. Here, far more powerful computers, or servers — which are directly linked to the optical discs that store the documents — are needed.

When Mr Healy looked at several systems he found that though they could scan and store information, they could not quickly cross-reference a complex array of the company's contractual documentation and could not organise the flow of information between a number of demanding procurement managers who all wanted to get their hands on relevant documents quickly.

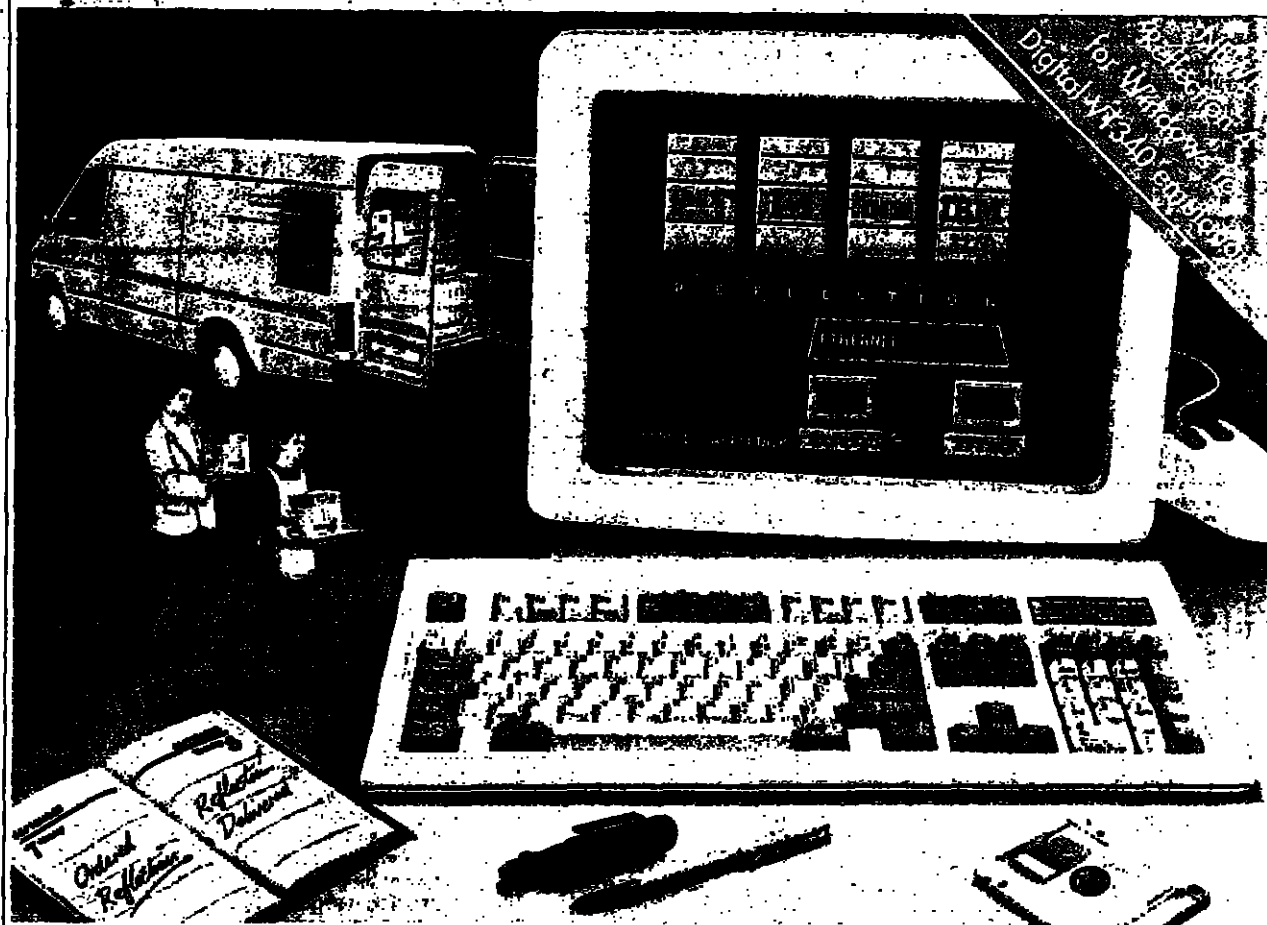
He ended up choosing a Windows-based system called Keyfile. "One person can follow through an entire job on screen without having to search through folders," he says.

"Now, once a job has been completed, all that is legally required to be kept on file is about four to five pages. The remainder is imaged on to optical discs, using scanning technology, and then is stored centrally."

In addition, links with word-processing packages means that many of the necessary forms and letters, which constitute an integral part of PowerGen's acquisition and ordering process, can be generated automatically. They can then be moved across to the word-processing software and printed, with any changes handled by editing features.

"In the end, the system allows managers to make better decisions," Mr Healy adds.

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The British are proving surprisingly popular when it comes to running big computer projects in Europe, as David Guest discovers

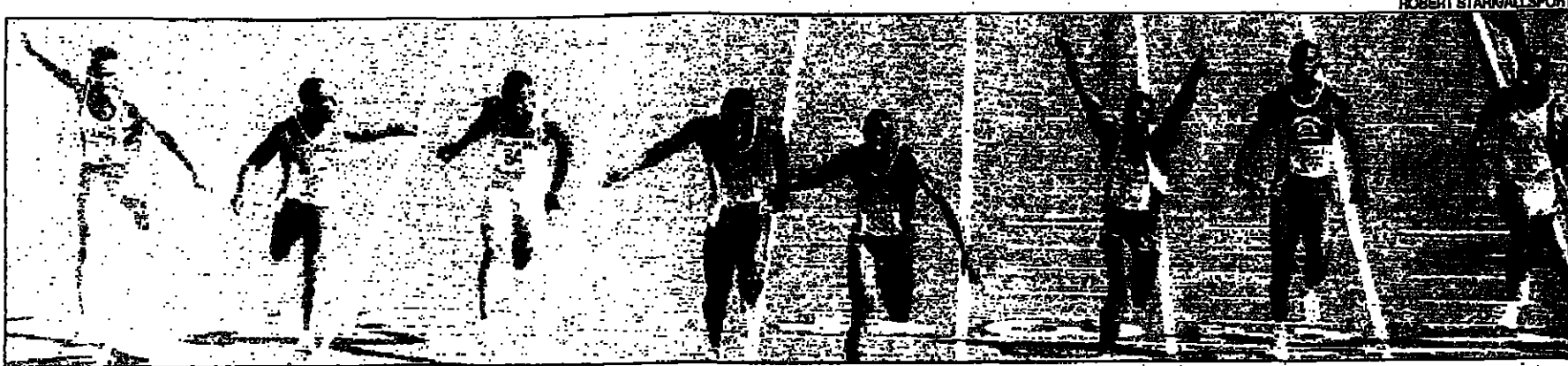
British managers are in strong demand for European projects in information technology and the rewards are high. However, project managers tempted abroad by the possibility of earning anything up to double their present salaries should be aware that attitudes to the disciplines behind such projects vary widely on the Continent. European harmonisation has not yet erased national differences.

The trend to hire the British as project managers on the Continent is partly because English is the lingua franca of most international IT projects but equally because formal British training and qualifications are respected.

"They like the British because we bring project management skills and tools," says Pat Tinworth, a project director for the Sema Group and a veteran of IT project management at the Barcelona Olympic Games last year.

Mr Tinworth spent two years in Spain, running an Anglo-Spanish team of 24 people, 12 from each country — an experience some British members of the team enjoyed so much they did not return.

Mr Tinworth's verdict on the Spanish approach to project work is mixed. "The Olympic Games in Barcelona was an unusual environment," he says. "On the systems side, 15 different nationalities were thrown together. The Spanish get there. I don't know how, and



Online for the Olympics: British IT help in Barcelona was a good example of the pros and cons of working abroad — and some enjoyed it so much that they stayed

## Race to sign winning Brits

sometimes I was close to panic, but they get there in the end.

"They like you to produce plans but it is very difficult to get them to abide by those plans. They seem to prefer improvisation."

Cally Ware, the international business manager of Hoskyns' project systems division, presents a similarly ambiguous view. "In Spain," she says, "the disciplines of project management are almost a dirty word, but people working on IT projects are very straight, taking it seriously. They complete very

good projects. A Briton would get on well there."

By contrast, Ms Ware says, Germans are not as efficient or organised as their international image suggests. "The sales cycle for anything there is three times as long as anywhere else," she says. But because German IT management concentrates on a consensus approach, a decision once taken can be relied on to be carried through. "It may take them a long time to make their minds up," says Ms Ware, "but once a decision is

made it translates rigorously into action. However, it is not as easy an environment for a British project manager as The Netherlands, Spain or even France."

She notes one significant drawback in Germany for British specialists. "They are sensitive at present about employing non-German nationals."

Holland may be a more comfortable destination, she says. "The Dutch are enthusiastic about project management and they like the British," she explains. "They

tend not to be particularly innovative, but they are very correct and precise and reliable."

As for France, it may be imagined that any non-French speaking British project manager would find life almost impossible and, according to people who have worked in France, IT projects there can create a general sense of dislocation.

Ms Ware notes that the French make corporate and strategic planning an exhaustive and detailed exercise. "But then they add elements of individual flair. As a

nation they are good at project work but I am not sure that an English person would be comfortable there — the French can be individualist to the point of autocracy within a project, but what they produce will be good."

Kevin Pulford, of GEC-Marconi Software Systems, was project manager on an EC-Espir project known as AMI — the Application of Metrics in Industry — which brought together working partners in nine European countries. "In this project I needed to take

into account different attitudes to authority," Mr Pulford says. "The French have a tendency to be slightly autocratic. This can work two ways. If they are in charge, they expect to have all the say; if you are in charge, they expect you to lay down the law."

"I found that esprit de corps was as good as if not better than on British collaborative projects." He adds that partners were not seen as potential rivals, as might have been the case in a project using people from one country.

On the down side, "meetings tend to be held in English and they tend to go more slowly because most of the people are not native English speakers."

Italy, Ms Ware suggests, might be the most difficult European country for a British hi-tech specialist. She detects a strong inclination to beat the system, and an aversion to planning and forecasting. "There is a split between the needs of the organisation and the individual's interpretation and implementation of those needs," she says.

But she has no doubts about the opportunities in general. "If you were a UK project manager struggling because of the recession, it could be worth your while just writing speculatively to large organisations in Spain, Switzerland, Belgium and Holland. The salaries can be twice what they are here."

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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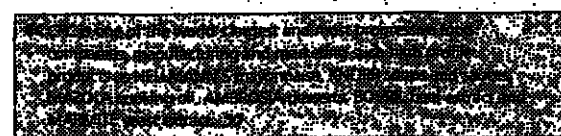


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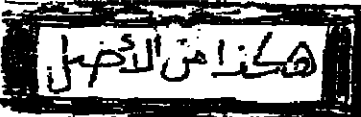
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**THEATRE page 34**  
Norman Rodway, Irish  
hedge-school keeper in  
the London revival of  
Brian Friel's *Translations*

# ARTS

**ROCK page 35**  
Saxophonist Kenny G,  
who has been made  
President Clinton's  
musical ambassador



**GALLERIES: Richard Cork** reviews the Tate Gallery show of art reflecting the mood of Paris, 1945-1955

## Paris in the springtime of peace

Sitting on a park bench with dead branches scattered beside their feet, five young Frenchmen are absorbed in the daily papers. Jean Hélion, who painted the scene, ensures that we are unable to read the words they scan. But judging by their grim faces, and the bleak backdrop of railings and bare trees beyond, the news can hardly be reassuring.

In 1950, when Hélion produced this crisp, cartoon-like picture, France was still struggling to emerge from the aftermath of a punishing war. The long years of Nazi occupation had left bitterness, guilt and internecine reprisals in their wake. Austerity and political turbulence were a way of life, while the cold war cast an oppressive shadow over Europe. No wonder the young men in the park look so disconsolate, as they scan unsuccessfully for some sign that the hardship is coming to an end.

Hanging in the first room of "Paris Post War: Art and Existentialism 1945-55" at the Tate Gallery's major summer exhibition, *Men Reading Newspapers* announces the mood which runs like a wave of depression through the entire survey. Hélion, unlike most of the artists who shared his interest in the Existentialist attitude, seasons his pessimism with a bizarre, provocative wit. In *Seated Nude*, *Nude Reclining* he hints at a lesbian involvement between the two languorous figures, while *Nude with Loaves* juxtaposes a voluptuous woman with some phallic baguettes lying suggestively on the table-top. We are some distance, here, from the anguish which Jean-Paul Sartre pinpointed as the Existentialist's fate, confronted with the absurd reality of a godless universe.

In the next room, though, Picasso pinches us straight into the charnel house. At the war's end, in 1946, he must have agreed with Simone de Beauvoir's belief that "it remained on our hands like a great, unwanted corpse, and there was no place on earth to bury it." Now well into his sixties, Picasso became preoccupied with skulls in chilled, monochromatic interiors. All the colour had been bled out of his once-boisterous work during the occupation, leaving a stark emphasis on death. One of these *memento mori* canvases looks tired, almost to the point of defeat. But Picasso's energy soon revives, and the goat's skull in another canvas bares its teeth with a predatory leer.

The severely simplified style he



Crisp and cartoon-like: *Men Reading Newspapers* by Jean Hélion (1904-87). From "Paris Post War: Art and Existentialism 1945-55" at the Tate Gallery

employs here is as disquieting as his subject-matter. But Francis Gruber, a younger and more plodding artist who enjoyed a brief reputation before his untimely death in 1948, was committed to a more accessible language. His *Job*, shown at the Salon of the Liberation only weeks after the Germans were ousted from Paris, is almost realistic compared with Picasso's brutal distortions. The biblical prophet has been transformed into a sallow male nude, gaunt and dejected. An Existentialist version of Rodin's *Thinker*, he rests head on hand and stares at a paper sheet

on the ground inscribed with Job's proud claim that "now once more my cry is a revolt, and yet my hand suppresses my sobs." Downcast yet stoical, Gruber's figure sits in a broken-fenced urban yard. It looks stony and self-conscious, like a set design for a harrowing Sartre play. But the painting's ponderous symbolic comment on the suffering of wartime France is at least readily comprehensible, unlike the roomful of pictures by Wols next door.

An inveterate alcoholic, who was interned as an enemy alien in 1939, Wols worked mostly in cheap hotel beds during the post-

war period. He died of food poisoning in 1951, having executed an array of small, wildly handled images centring on growth and flux.

Giacometti is the most impressive artist in the Tate survey. An immense white chamber has been devoted to his elongated bronze figures, interspersed with a few paintings of slightly more fleshy sitters posing in the artist's studio. This cramped, crumbling, cave-like place impressed everyone who visited it. Giacometti's friend Jean Genet, whose hunched, tense portrait is the finest painting in the Tate room, recalled that the artist's respect for "all matter" made him angry if his wife Annette "destroyed the dust on the window panes." The grey, crepuscular studio became a hallowed extension of Giacometti's own personality, and the drawings he made on its cracked, decaying walls were reverentially preserved when the rest of the studio was demolished after his death. Hanging here behind a row of sentinel-like bronzes, these ghostly figures scratched on plaster wall fragments suggest that Giacometti, like Wols and Jean Fautrier, whose work is also in this show, was alive to the power of graffiti.

But Giacometti's drawings must have looked far more impressive in the dimness of his studio. Here, brilliantly lit, they are robbed of their mystery. He would surely never have wanted to display such informal, private drawings in the alien setting of a gallery.

All the same, the rest of his work thrives in this clinical context. The emaciated figures have lost so much bodily substance that they seem in imminent danger of collapse. But they continue to stand erect, either singly or in neat rows, as if presenting themselves for medical inspection. Although Giacometti treated their trunks and limbs with great freedom, refusing to specify anatomical details, he often elaborated the faces with a surprising amount of complexity. Their features appear transfixed, expectant and yet tirelessly stoical. Held in suspense by Giacometti's consummate modelling, they gaze outwards like frail witnesses bent on maintaining their vigilance.

They also seem very understated when compared with Germaine Richier's bronzes. Her figures are often pierced by holes as grievous as wounds. *The Shepherd of Landes*, perched on a tripod oddly reminiscent of Epstein's *Rock Drill*, resembles the shattered victim of a bomb blast as devastating as the explosion at Hiroshima. Richier's figures may be bulkier than Giacometti's,

but they sprout animals' heads, lean at giddy angles or find themselves entangled in a car's cradle of metal rods. Sometimes her sculpture strives too hard for pathos, and she certainly looks doleful in a room shared with the far more ebullient Dubuffet.

While echoing Fautrier's love of densely layered paintings, and the general fascination with street art, this irrepressible ex-wine merchant lacked a profound sense of tragedy. At the time, many reviewers were incensed by his deliberate crudeness, not to mention the string, tar, glass and sand he sired into his pigment. Today, however, Dubuffet's work seems jaunty rather than threatening. His figures, exposed on their lumpy picture-surfaces like fun-fair targets waiting to be hit, are mocked without mercy.

Dubuffet's gusto and irreverence comes as a relief after the anaemic morbidity which afflicts minor artists such as the feeble Henri Michaux. But even flamboyance looks lightweight up against the irreducible stillness of Giacometti's figures. Having withstood the most gruelling privation imaginable, they assert their grave and obstinate dignity to the end.

Paris Post War: Art and Existentialism 1945-55, sponsored by The Independent, at the Tate (071-821 1313) open daily until Sept 5.

### THE TIMES



#### CD DIRECT

**TOMORROW** The Times will launch CD Direct. This unique new service for readers will recommend the finest recordings of great classical music — and readers will also be able to order these recommended CDs to be mailed direct to their homes, at a specially reduced price.

With the successful launch of Classic FM, more people than ever are listening to the classics. But many still find the surrounding "mystique" daunting. The huge range of recordings now available can be baffling unless you know what you are looking for.

The musical experts often talk in jargon, or assume a grasp of musical history that newcomers have no means of sharing. Too many would-be classical fans, it seems, find all this becomes a barrier to enjoyment.

The Times is trying to do something about this. Month by month, we will focus upon conductors, instrumentalists and singers whom we believe to be at the pinnacle of their profession — and suggest indispensable recordings which can be ordered through a simple booking procedure. Four superb top-price CDs will be recommended each month.

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### Grace and favour

JOHN Major being otherwise engaged on Wednesday afternoon, it was left to Peter Brooke, the heritage secretary, officially to open the Grosvenor House Antiques Fair. Meanwhile Norma Major graciously received on behalf of her husband the art dealers' gift of a Doulton Lambeth pottery mug depicting the cricketing W.G. Grace. As the drama of Norman Lamont's speech unfolded, this thoughtful present began to take on an ominous symbolism. How many innings has the PM left to play?

Apart from this hiccup, the dealers were in bullish mood. They have assembled some £200 million worth of art and antiques at the Grosvenor House Hotel and highlights include a major John Constable painting priced at over £3 million, a 13th-century East Anglian bible worth £100,000 and a newly discovered pair of bookcases designed by the 18th-century Scottish architect and designer, Robert Adam, at £350,000.

stantial holdings of Islamic art, and that much of it is in store due to lack of space. Yesterday Khalili said: "We are not trying to push the collection on anyone. We are just trying to show it to people." As for those who dared to ask the money question, he replied: "It is none of your business." The Channel 4 programmes are scheduled for Tuesday and June 20.

#### Screen for help

AT LAST the Metropolitan Police have got themselves a computer in which to log the ever-increasing number of art thefts. Until now they had relied on a dismal manual card system and latterly the Art Loss Register, a privately-owned system supported by the insurance trade. Now members of the Met's Art and Antiques Squad have a capacity for 16 million entries and are urging the public to photograph their antiques so that, in event of a burglary, such images can be logged into the system.

Eventually, according to the squad's Detective Chief Inspector John Butler, officers will be able to key in details of a suspect item into a lap-top computer which they carry with them, and have an image of the item, together with all the details concerning it, in seconds.

"This is the job of the police and it is impossible for any commercial operation, however motivated, to replace the police intelligence system," said Lord Derwent, chairman of the London and Provincial Dealers Association, who attended the computer's launch. The only problem is who is going to log in the information and follow up whatever leads it may produce? The squad is notoriously understaffed. Further reports in six months.

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

### Stormy waters for the Mersey's band

Diane Massey reports on a row that has rocked one of the world's oldest orchestras

Fears are mounting over the future of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, one of the longest-established orchestras in the world. Yet just two years ago the RLPO was riding high, celebrating its 150th anniversary, receiving critical plaudits, touring internationally and with its books firmly in the black.

Now the orchestra has accrued a trading deficit approaching £500,000. Its acclaimed music director of the past six years, Libor Pesek, has announced his departure, though the players hope to change his mind. And the orchestra has still not found a definite venue in which to play during the 1994/95 season when its Liverpool hall closes for refurbishment.

The RLPO is run by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Society. Its chairman Brian Thaxter, warning of near-insolvency, last week wrote to the Arts Council and local authority representatives seeking £500,000 to pay wages and immediate overheads.

After a board meeting last Monday, Thaxter announced that it was "unthinkable" to put the society's affairs into administration and suggested other options. These included selling assets, raising

society's "special activities fund" and from the building appeal fund. Access to this money depends on the agreement of the trusts which administer the funds. Thaxter largely attributes the RLPO's difficulties to the recession.

But underlying all this are longstanding problems within the board itself. Former chief executive Tony Woodcock, now with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, departed two years ago claiming constant interference from a clique of board members.

The appointment of the Canadian, Bob Creech, as his £72,000-per-annum replacement did not satisfy members of Woodcock's successful management team. They took part in a meeting to oust Creech. An independent QC's enquiry was commissioned, costing the society £20,000. This proposed the resignation of then chairman John Last and a reconciliation between warring factions.

However, the entire senior management team with the exception of Creech dispensed to other jobs. A new management team was not in place until several months later. Three board members critical of the administration have resigned in the last few months.

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JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR







ROCK ON FRIDAY: Politically correct pop ... Paris is twinned with Houston .. RuPaul dresses for success

# Giving the president sax appeal

The appointment of Kenny G as America's pop ambassador could do a lot of good for a beleaguered Bill Clinton. Alan Jackson reports

Next Friday, during a gala concert to be staged at New York's Radio City Music Hall, President Clinton will induct a wiry, poodle-haired saxophonist into the new and honorary position of his administration's Ambassador for Musical Education. He is Kenny G — born the more prosaic Kenny Gorelick in Seattle 36 years ago — and he is the White House incumbent's favourite pop artist.

This droll fact emerged in response to a direct question posed in the final, frantic weeks of last year's campaigning. It came during MTV's much-hyped *Rock the Vote*, where a prime-time studio full of young voters had been invited to quiz the candidates on key issues. Clinton's admission that the mellow but multi-million-selling saxman was his preferred listening choice proved a perfect tactical move to win over the suspicious teenage and twentysomething viewers. Younger than any surviving members of the key 1960s rock bands, Clinton might be justly expected to show a grasp of subsequent developments in popular music. But while the selection of some past-their-sell-by-date act like the Bee Gees would have left him looking hopelessly dated and sentimental, so too would any attempt to ingratiate himself with the trend-conscious young have exposed him as bogus and ridiculous.

Equally, for a professional flesh-peddler such as he to opt for, say, the Lemonheads would have brought howls of disbelief. With Kenny G, the president-to-be got it just right.

For politicians and administrators, the theory goes, music is an avenue into the minds of the young. If grunge acts and garage bands represent the Mean Streets end of that highway's sonic spectrum, the player responsible for such album titles as *Songbird*, *Silhouette* and *Breathless* could be said to be something of a well-manicured, upmarket but off-used suburban thoroughfare — the sort of avenue linking an executive housing plot with a shopping mall, perhaps.

The former Gorelick, holder of an accountancy degree, is a skilled and evocative practitioner of the president's own favourite instrument. So he has qualifications, craft and diligence on his side —

Politicians, the theory goes, see music as an avenue into the minds of the young

important for a man who'll be relied on to set a good example as he tours schools and gives morale-boosting speeches. But he also shifts truckloads of units.

Since the release of his eponymous debut album in 1982, he has sold more than 20 million records worldwide, most of them during the sudden career acceleration he has enjoyed in the 1990s. Critics tend to call him bland and uninspiring, but that is unlikely to bother the accountants at his record label, Arista. And because his music is purely instrumental, it not only crosses all racial and language barriers but also manifests itself

as the instant tones of his soprano sax were heard snaking behind the imperious glamorous opera diva Kathleen Battle on her performance of "We Shall Overcome" at the inaugural concert on the White House steps. And the showbiz-conscious Clinton's professional link with a high-profile and even higher-selling chart act will flatter his reputation with anyone who buys and plays a Kenny G album.

Could such a pairing happen here? A call to the Downing Street press office suggests it is unlikely. "Mr Major likes a wide range of music, from the classics to — well — the Buddy Holly sort of thing," a wary spokesman says. So... Tommy Steele as our own Ambassador of Rock then? Surely the PM must like the odd artist young enough not to remember "Little White Bull", let alone "Peggy Sue" and "True Love Ways".

Further queries were headed off with the suggestion that reference be made to the wide musical interests demonstrated by the premier's choices on *Desert Island Discs*, but the inclusion among them of recent raves like "The Happening" by the Supremes and "The Best Is Yet To Come" by Frank Sinatra (a choice which has so far proved to be peculiarly unpropitious) can hardly be said to



Play that funky music, Mr President: Bill Clinton and saxophonist Kenny G rock out for truth, justice and the American way

give our restless young much cause for confidence. There is always National Music Day, of course, the heritage department initiative inspired by a meeting between Tim Rennton, the former arts minister, and that venerable pillar of the establishment, Mick Jagger.

But despite a whopping 20 pages of press releases detailing this year's cornucopia of events — billed as "The Sunday that starts on Saturday", it cheats cleverly by taking in both June 26 and 27 — there is the sense that the concept (rather than the sterling and extensive programme itself) is still unlikely to capture the imagination of the average Gameboy-playing, home-work-shirking youth.

Why? Because, while they are more than happy to turn out for single-issue benefits or big, independently organised thrashers like Live Aid or Mandela Day, those British performers with any genuine contemporary stature or influence just don't seem to want the same promiscuous relationship with politicians that their American counterparts enjoy.

Attempts to pretend they do inevitably turn out sadly: remember the awkward photo-ops that became so much a part of the mid-1980s Tory election campaigns, with the likes of Vince Hill, Lynsey de Paul and a pre-comeback Lulu thrust forward in a bid to seduce the pop-minded voter? For a brief time

it looked as if Labour's Red Wedge might buck the trend, yet even its line-up of young socialist-minded stars was too esoteric to sway the average young adult as they wandered down the high street towards the polling booth.

But then, perhaps we have got the relationship between pop and politics just right. The appointment by Jack Lang, the French culture minister, of the then 26-year-old Bruno Lion to revitalise and promote his country's rock music was greeted with guffaws by almost every sector of the community, not least the music industry itself.

"Any country that needs a minister for rock is not a rock country," sneered Lionel Rotcage, editor of

the French-language edition of *Rolling Stone*. Television presenter Antoine des Caunes said: "It's two ideas that don't fit together for me. Rock, as far as I understand it, is a music performed by the angry young, not by people paid by the government to spread this anger."

Kenny G is hardly an angry young man, but then America's climate is different: its popular music industry is world-dominant and needs no help from the public sector. Like most other countries, however, America has great social and educational needs, and the amiable saxman's presence on a national platform may help focus the attention of a star-struck public on those needs.

## NEW WAVES

The insider's guide to the Next Big Thing

Overnight success may be a useful cliché but it was coined, surely, by a person who experienced nights of interminable angst. The overnight success of RuPaul has progressed at a snail's pace.

Back in 1986, I began to receive odd letters from Atlanta, Georgia. In language that can only be described as disarmingly intimate, these kept me apprised of the career developments of a bit 7in black drag queen and chanteuse named RuPaul Charles. Seven years later, after at least two obscure albums, numerous television appearances and at least one acting role which he/she may come to regret, RuPaul is receiving the benefits of a more conventional sales campaign. Convention



RuPaul: frock rock

is used advisedly. Here is a man whose only brush with convention has been a proximity to the convention centres of Atlanta.

Now resident in New York, he has produced an album of such exuberance that the heterosexual world may learn to set aside panic reactions and join in the fun. *Supermodel* is a collection of songs (some admittedly stronger than others) rather than an avant-garde gesture. "Back To My Roots" applies the cutting tongue to Lorraine Day's Afrocentric disco classic, while Chic's "Everybody Dance" is updated with an adroit touch its originators no longer possess.

In some quarters, RuPaul may be regarded as confirmation of a decadent madness. Is he frivolous? Of course he is, yet any man who can march against the Ku-Klux-Klan in Alabama wearing full drag must be dedicated to his frivolity. Perhaps, like Muhammad Ali in the 1960s, RuPaul can win devotion from a public that fears everything he represents. If so, anticipate a radical shift in dress habits for men and buy your rock while stocks last.

DAVID TOOP

RECORDS: Soul without fire, tricks without magic

## Mica unearths another layer

**MICA PARIS**  
*Whisper A Prayer*  
(4th & Broadway 514 776)  
AFTER losing ground with her last album, *Contribution*, Mica Paris is now being groomed as Britain's answer to Whitney Houston. Much of *Whisper A Prayer*, her third album, was recorded in America, with the bulk of the writing and production duties being shared between Narada Michael Walden (Houston's producer), and Rod Temperton, architect of some of Michael Jackson's biggest hits.

With that kind of muscle around the stakes are obviously high, and the 23-year-old Paris has raised her game accordingly. From sultry ballads like "You Put A Move On My Heart" and "Too Far Apart", to the breezy swingbeat of "We Were Made For Love" she grasps the melodic opportunities, soaring gracefully where appropriate, while generally avoiding Houston-style overkill.

But ultimately it's the sort of formula soul album that expresses little beyond the usual vaguely strappy sentiments and produces a sensation that is more soporific than sensual.

**AN EMOTIONAL FISH**  
*Junk Puppets*  
(eastwest 4509-92520)  
THEY'VE got the silly name and they come from Ireland, but still An Emotional Fish are struggling to establish their credentials as a real rock act

with something to say that is worth hearing. In fact, their only crime has been bad timing, and a tendency to sound too confident when they were supposed to be "paying their dues".

*Junk Puppets*, the band's second album, should go some way towards convincing all but the most hardened sceptics. Tougher and quicker than their debut, the odd guitar textures and pugnacious bass lines of "Sister Change" and "Rain" are balanced by gorgeous choruses, especially the rousing, all-hands-to-the-deck chant of "Careless Child".

Singer Gerard Whelan does tend to sound like Bono, especially on the low, muttered introduction to "If God Was A Girl", and the bold, anthemic qualities of some numbers may not be to everyone's taste. But this is good Celtic rock with a real kick.

**TEARS FOR FEARS**  
*Elemental*  
(Mercury 514875)

HAVING acrimoniously dissolved his multi-million-selling partnership with Curt Smith, Roland Orzabal has wisely hung on to the duo's name.

Tina Palmer (Tin Machine producer) and guitarist Alan Griffiths have been drafted in as replacements, but despite Griffiths' credits as co-writer, co-producer and co-instrumentalist throughout, it is

Orzabal alone who appears on the cover.

The upheaval has had little impact on the musical formula which remains much as before: earnestly nonsensical lyrics about how awful life is, patched into painstakingly designed pop-rock arrangements, all stuck together with a made-in-the-studio feel lending the music an unmistakably "factory fresh" quality.

The shadows of Simple Minds, Depeche Mode and the Beatles flit across the musical landscapes of numbers like "Cold" and "Break It Down Again", while the spirit of Brian Wilson naturally inhabits a rather aimless Beach Boys pastiche called "Brian Wilson Said".

The album's grudge song, "Fish Out Of Water", presumably aimed at Smith, is hilarious. How seriously can we take a man who sings: "We used to sit and talk about primal scream... Now in Neptune's kitchen you will be food for killer whales".

**ORCHESTRAL MANOEUVRES IN THE DARK**  
*Liberator*  
(Virgin 7 88225)

ANDY McCuskey may have raised OMD from the dead, leading the band to spectacular platinum success with their comeback album *Sugar Tax* in 1991. But in the process he has turned one of the ranking synthesizer groups of the early 1980s into a production-line pop phenomenon, with about as much musical clout as Alvin Stardust or the Rubettes.



I'm every woman (well, one in particular): Mica Paris muscled in on Whitney Houston's act

There is more soul in the speaking clock than in McCuskey's anodyne voice and, bereft of the whimsy or arch dramatic irony that makes Erasure and sometimes even the Pet Shop Boys bearable, the album is stuffed with tinny arrangements and makeweight melodies that dissolve on contact with the ear.

*Liberator* will probably be another huge success. Even so, it stands as a nadir in the annals of synth-pop.

**JEFF BECK & THE BIG TOWN PLAYBOYS**  
*Crazy Legs*  
(Epic 473597)

WHILE other heavyweight guitarists of the 1960s (Clapton, Page, Green, Winter, et al) were being influenced by blues giants like Muddy Waters and the various Kings, Jeff Beck was taking his cues from the rockabilly strut of Cliff Gallup, the little-known guitarist in the Blue Caps, Gene Vincent's

prototype rock'n'roll group of the 1950s. Now Beck has joined forces with revivalist combo the Big Town Playboys to record a scrupulously observed salute to the music of Vincent and the Blue Caps, recreating 18 of their best recordings, although pervasively omitting "Be-Bop-A-Lula", Vincent's best-known song, on the grounds that it has had enough exposure already.

The Playboys recreate the sparse 1950s sound with eerie precision, while Beck, shorn of all his modern guitar gizmology, displays a remarkably supple touch and genuine feel for old rockers such as "Race With The Devil", "Catman" and "Pink Thunderbird".

It just seems a shame that it takes a big name to make a replica before anyone else will even think of paying attention to the merits of the original recordings.

DAVID SINCLAIR

## SEVEN DAYS

WHAT'S OUT AND ABOUT THIS COMING WEEK

**TELEVISION:** *Sound Stuff: Weird Nightmare* (Channel 4, Sun, 7pm). This is the first of a new season of music documentaries. Eccentrically directed by the Ray Davies of the Kinks, the programme attempts to make sense of the life of the late Charles Mingus through last year's celebrity recording sessions which produced the tribute album *Weird Nightmare*.

Featuring interviews with Keith Richards, Charlie Watts, Elvis Costello and others, the film is as chaotic and awkward as Mingus was himself.

**Rock Docs:** *So You Wanna Be A Rock 'n' Roll Star* (BBC2, tonight/tomorrow, 12.10am). Nearly men the Kursed! Flyers filmed for three days on the road in 1976. Funny, sad and doomed. Surely this was the blueprint for *Spinal Tap*?

**BOOK:** *k.d. lang: Carrying The Torch* by William Robertson (ECW/Turnaround £6.99). Competent, if slender, first biography of the country singer from Consort, Alberta, which explains how

she successfully ignored the first rule of country: "The higher the hair, the closer to God."

**NOW BOOKING:** Prince adds an extra (and final) date to his British tour at Sheffield Arena on August 1. Full dates are: National Indoor Arena, Birmingham (021 200 2202) July 26-27; Meadowbank Stadium, Edinburgh, July 29; Wembley Stadium (081-900 1234) July 31; Sheffield Arena (0742 565 500) August 1-2.

Now in its 29th year, the Arbor Ale Cambridge Folk Festival takes place from July 30 to August 1. The lineup includes Christy Moore, the Dubliners, John Mayall and the Bluesbreakers, Green On Red, Iris Dement, Loudon Wainwright III and many more. Box office is now open for postal and telephone bookings on 0223 463346.

Tickets for Status Quo's British tour go on sale today. Dates start at Rye, Reading, on Nov 23 and finish at Wembley Arena (081-900 1234) December 18-19.

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## BULGIN ON MARKET RESEARCH

Car manufacturers rope in the public - the car-illiterate, the bead-mat and bad graphics bunch - and take what they say seriously.

## THE BABY BATTLE



The latest attempts to re-define the minicar are the Fiat Cinquecento and Renault Twingo. We take them to a number of experts for their opinions and give ours.

## FUN, FUN, FUN

It's time to blow those recessionary blues away with some topless fun for summer, with a classic monster duel and a choice of three bonsai coupés.



All this and more in the magazine that dares to speak its mind. July edition

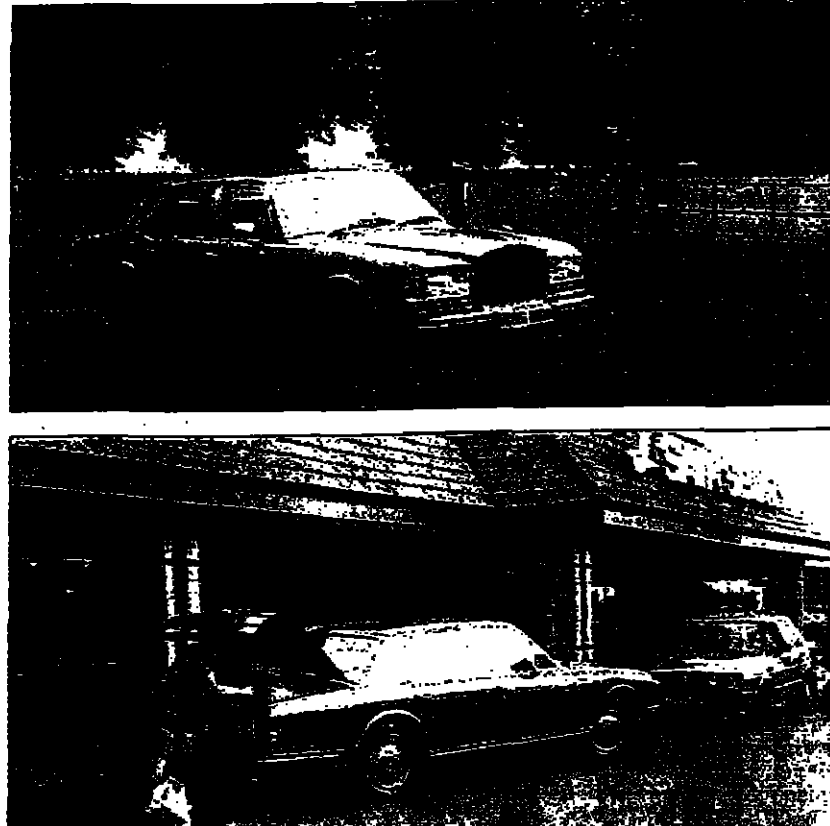
**OUT NOW**

# car

MAGAZINE

Kevin Eason had a chance to drive a motorist's dream car for a day, and took it to do the shopping

# Mixing with the proles in a Rolls



Rolling around: parking can be a bore, but there's room in the country. The boot, assuming that you can shut it, easily accommodates the weekly shopping, and even a Rolls-Royce owner occasionally wants to pick up a video

Name one thing more embarrassing than walking naked into a room full of strangers? Answer: breaking down in a Rolls-Royce. Not breaking down exactly, but battling with a boot lid that refused to close.

All right, if the least of the problems that confronts the average motorist is an obstinate boot lid, then motoring is a cakewalk. But this was a Rolls-Royce and boot lids simply do not break. The main problem was not the inconvenience, but ignoring snoring onlookers, watching as I banged down the lid a dozen times while the alarm rang.

How did I deal with the ignominy? To be honest... very badly. I was in a sweat. But if I was upset, my children were mortified. I saw them slide down into the depths of the leather armchairs that masquerade as rear seats, refusing to come out until the problem was solved.

Their father's great plan was to spend 24 hours in a Rolls-Royce, discovering how the other half lived, although the recession has cut the other half to the other tenth. Sales of Rolls-Royces and Bentleys have been halved in two years and the company has lost £100 million. Popular analysis has it that the Rolls is dead, too ostentatious by half in grim economic times. Driving a £100,000 car is seen as unnecessary as a fake tan. When times are tough, the company chairman and the entrepreneurs who make up the company's customer base in this

In this country, the envy of others seems to be the optional extra that comes with a Rolls

school, but my eldest took one look and walked past, refusing to let anyone know she was connected with the flash little guy in the big car.

That was when the boot lid made things worse. After talking her round, she threw her school bag into the boot only to discover it would not close again. Now we had a crowd of kids watching, obviously thinking this was the best comedy since Buster Keaton: a man in a limousine who cannot even close the boot and keeps triggering the alarm.

Plans for a posh night at the theatre (scene: wife in little black dress, flunky opening door, candlelit dinner) disinte-

grated. Take the wife's Astra instead (trousers, no flunky and a curry).

Rolls-Royce had a man at my front door first thing next morning to perform minor surgery on the Silver Spirit. Just as well, because the street was now lined up for the official drive-off.

First stop, the pay and display, and I had the looming realisation that 18 feet of car has to be manoeuvred into a parking space designed for a Ford Sierra. But Rolls drivers do not get ruffled. The power steering took over and parking proved easy, disappointing the half-dozen sets of eyes waiting to see how many attempts it was going to need. And there was no problem finding the car later... the boot stuck out six feet beyond every other in the car park.

On to school to watch Eason

minor playing cricket and now the car looked at home, the sound of willow on leather complementing the quiet purr of the 6.7 litres under the bonnet.

But the biggest test was to come the weekly shopping trip to Sainsbury's. No danger of buying too much to carry - there is room in the boot for enough food to feed a brigade of Guards for a month. The woman in the next car was fascinated. "Even rich people have to load their own shopping," she said in a stage whisper loud enough to be heard back at the R-R factory in Cheshire.

By now, my self-consciousness, which had me staring at the Wilton carpet when anybody looked in my direction, had given way to the look of indifferent arrogance I assumed Rolls drivers affected. It

worked well enough at Sainsbury's but was even more successful at the video store, where a little man clutching his copy of *Terminator* looked in wonderment at the great red beast with even more muscle than Schwarzenegger. "That must be fabulous to drive," he gasped. "You get used to it." I told him nonchalantly. Well, you do.

I began the day as a cynic, refusing to believe any car could be worth £98,000 and ended a drooling devotee, addicted to the smell of hand-cut leather, lolling in the huge driver's seat, looking down, literally, on the hordes of mass-produced hatchbacks as I swished by. The car is a mass of clever electronics, which control the suspension and gear change so smoothly that a drive to the

shops is like a ride on a magic carpet.

By the time I got to our local Chinese takeaway, I was a Rolls driver. Customers lined up at the window of Ocean City for a better look. I felt as though I should buy the restaurant, but settled for a number four. The ride was so smooth, there was no sweat and sour sauce spill.

In fact, there was only one bad moment to come - a trip to the petrol pumps where I covered my eyes to hide from the tumbler ringing up next month's salary in exchange for a tank of unleaded. A passing driver in a battered 11-year-old Toyota leaned out of his window and shouted: "Hell of a car. Bet you're rich." Not after filling that tank.

This morning's trip back to my Daihatsu hatchback. From the sublime to the Japanese.

# MOTORING

## AUDI AUTHORISED DEALERS

88 (F) Audi Coupe 2.0 E. Black, 100,000 miles, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 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**Randall: sense of fun**











**BBC1**

6.00 Business Breakfast (88237)  
7.00 Breakfast News (70476701)  
9.05 Morning Surgery. Holiday hazards and insomnia (88237)  
9.20 Hot Chefs. Fish dishes prepared by Mark Gregory and Alastair Little (88237)  
9.45 Whatever Happened To...? Jan Leeming looks at the stories that were once headline news (88237)  
10.00 News (88237), regional news and weather (88237)  
10.05 Playdays (88237)  
10.30 Tales of Aesop (88237)  
10.35 The Flintstones (88237)  
11.00 News (88237), regional news and weather (88237)  
11.05 The High Chaparral. Vintage western adventures (88237)  
11.55 The History Man. Bryan Cranston looks at the relationship between property and landscape (88237)  
12.00 News (88237), regional news and weather (88237)  
12.05 The Coastguard Odyssey. The mystery of Easter Island (88237)  
12.55 Regional News and weather (88237)  
1.00 News with John Tusa. (88237)  
1.30 Neighbours. (88237)  
2.20 The Flying Doctors. Three people are trapped in an overturned truck. (88237)  
3.35 Daily Double Bill (88237)  
3.50 Pingu (88237)  
4.55 The Last of the Mohicans. The last programme in the series features a second visit to Ghana and the West African rainforest (88237)  
5.00 Newsround (88237)  
5.10 Round the Twist. (88237)  
5.35 Neighbours. (88237)  
5.45 Inside Out. (88237)  
6.00 O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. (88237)  
6.30 Regional News. (88237)  
7.00 The Rock 'n' Roll Years (88237). Memories of the 1950s in 1955 in Harold Lloyd's look over as leader of the band. (88237)  
7.30 The Flying Doctors. Three people are trapped in an overturned truck. (88237)  
8.00 Casualty. A teenager gets caught in a tragic accident. (88237)  
8.50 Point of View. (88237)  
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Barker. (88237)

**BBC2**

6.45am Open University: Maths Methods: Applying Matrices (88237) 7.10 Statistics: Testing for Hypothesis (88237) 7.35 Maths: Volumes of Revolution (88237)  
8.00 Breakfast News (88237)  
9.00 Daytime on Two: Storytime (7481188) 9.15 Inside English (7032523) 9.30 Help Your Child with Reading (88237) 9.45 West (88237) 10.00 The Geography Programme (88237) 10.20 Usher in Focus (88237) 10.40 Landmarks (88237) 11.00 Ghostwriter (88237) 11.30 Tutorial Topics (88237) 11.40 English Express (88237) 12.00 English File (88237) 12.30pm Scene (88237) 1.00 Media Studies for Higher and Modules (88237) 1.20 Penny Crayon (88237) 1.30 Puppypod Tales (88237) 1.35 Crystal Type and Alastair (88237) 1.40 Landmarks (88237)  
2.00 News and weather followed by Jumpstart (88237)  
2.20 Tennis. The quarter-finals of the Stella Artois championships from the Queen's Club, London. (88237) Includes News (88237), regional news and weather at 3.00 and 3.50. (88237)  
3.00 Film: Best of the Badmen (1951). Robert Ryan, Robert Preston and John Turturro lead a strong-cast but routine western about the capture of an outlaw gang at the end of the Civil War. Directed by William D. Russell. (88237)  
7.20 Parenthood. A comedy series inspired by the Steve Martin film of the same name. (88237)  
7.45 With the Papers Say. Presented by Joanna Coles of The Guardian (88237)  
8.00 Public Eye. See Choice (88237)  
8.30 Gardeners' World. Liz Rigby builds a self-contained garden on the cheap. (88237) (88237)  
9.00 The Real McCoy. Last of the multi-cultural comedy series (88237)

**Portrait of a reggae star: Bob Marley (C4, 11.10pm)**

Here is an early and needed repeat for the impressive feature-length documentary by the Irish director Declan Lowney. Much of it consists of concert performances, spanning two decades but concentrating on 22 songs filmed between 1973 and 1980. Sometimes footage of the same song from different concerts is run together, a device which emphasises Marley's ability to keep standard material fresh. Dispensing with a commentary, Lowney mixes the performance footage with clips from Marley interviews and contemporary news footage. Since the film uses only Marley's words it cannot be either objective or critical. But it is an effective portrait of an outstanding reggae musician who became the developing world's first true international star.

**Public Eye: Casualties of Peace**  
BBC2, 8.00pm

Underrated among television's investigative journalism strands, Public Eye continues to throw revealing light into often unfamiliar corners. Tonight's report is about shortcomings in the medical care available to British service people and their families abroad. There are allegations that the military hospitals which provide the treatment have incompetent and overworked staff and outdated equipment. The film looks at cases which resulted in the death of one child and severe brain damage to two others. Among the victims was 11-year-old Stephanie Lucking who entered a military hospital in Germany to have two teeth removed under a general anaesthetic. The operation went tragically wrong, leaving the girl permanently disabled.

**Stay Lucky: The Driving Instructor**  
ITV, 9.00pm

Dennis Waterman's affable cockney jailbird is underrated among television's comedy stars. Tonight's report is about shortcomings in the medical care available to British service people and their families abroad. There are allegations that the military hospitals which provide the treatment have incompetent and overworked staff and outdated equipment. The film looks at cases which resulted in the death of one child and severe brain damage to two others. Among the victims was 11-year-old Stephanie Lucking who entered a military hospital in Germany to have two teeth removed under a general anaesthetic. The operation went tragically wrong, leaving the girl permanently disabled.

**Britain's heritage: guide Kirsty Wark (9.30pm)**

9.30 One Foot in the Past. Lucinda Lambton weaves lyrical about Sir Joseph Bazalgette, the Victorian who masterminded the London sewage system. Presented by Kirsty Wark (88237)  
10.00 Best of the Badmen (1951). Robert Ryan, Robert Preston and John Turturro lead a strong-cast but routine western about the capture of an outlaw gang at the end of the Civil War. Directed by William D. Russell. (88237)  
10.30 Newsnight with Sue Cameron. (88237)  
11.15 Later with Joanne Holland. Featuring Matt Johnson's band, Charles and Eddie, The The and the Jayhawks (88237). Wales: Wales in Westminster 11.45 Joanne Holland 12.35 Weather 12.40-2.00 News 2.05-2.15 Out of Line (88237)  
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Football Association should dismiss the England manager before end of contract

## Time to terminate torment of Taylor

FROM ROB HUGHES  
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT  
IN BOSTON

HOW low is it possible to sink without drowning? More importantly, how can Graham Taylor be allowed to see through his remit to succeed or fail in trying to qualify England for the 1994 World Cup finals?

Now that Holland have drawn at home to Norway, a window has opened for England to win that qualification. It would take, at minimum, two wins and a draw from the remaining three matches. It is not hopeless.

But Taylor should not now be encouraged to pursue the matter to the bitter or sweet end. For all that he is a personable, decent man, Taylor's reaction after the shameful 2-0 defeat by the United States here on Wednesday night was to stand with his back to the wall and tell the world that he is a battler, born and bred, and that he and his players were in this together.

But the more he spoke at the Foxboro Stadium, the more suspicions arose that the England manager is out of his depth. A trifle for sure but, in his hour of defiance, he seemed to miss the points completely on which his team have become so inept.

He singled out, for example, two players to praise. He spoke of Gary Pallister and Lee Sharpe, the two Manchester United recruits who he has injected into the team for experience. How could that be justified? The two goals that sunk England were virtually out of Taylor's own school of aerial combat.

Pallister's fallibility in both cases was alarming. The tallest England defender has many attributes of a good centre half but lacks thought. For the first goal, he stood barely two yards from the scorer, Tom Dooley, and, when the ball was headed into England's net, he had still not moved to the danger. Nothing in him moved except that the shoulders slumped in delayed reaction.

When the second goal went in — a header by Alexi Lalas from a corner — Chris Woods, the goalkeeper, was culpable in not claiming the ball around his six-yard box, but he was balked by Pallister at the crucial moment.

Similarly, there were glimpses of the exciting acceleration Sharpe brought into his game



Eye of the storm: Taylor wonders where it all went wrong after England's dismal display in their 2-0 defeat against the United States in the US Cup tournament in Boston.

a couple of years ago. But we also saw that he has lost the incisiveness to make that tell in goalkeeping situations.

The more Taylor spoke, the more one wondered if he has the conviction in his beliefs to lift this or any other side he chooses for England. It looks as if whatever line-up he puts into the fray, there is no longer faith or belief in the men asked to carry out his tactics. If this is so, then no matter that the Football Association promises him there will be no panic and no sacking, the loss of face for England around the world, and subsequently the loss of income through not qualifying, will force its hand. The only question is whether it should be before England fail or after it.

The FA is unlikely to make a decision on Taylor's three-year spell in charge until the trip to the US Cup is over and may delay until the summer meeting in Bournemouth on June 26. As the squad travelled to Washington for the game against Brazil on Sunday, Sir Bert Millichamp, the FA chair-

man, said: "It is clearly something we need to talk about."

If there were to be an instant — and temporary — replacement, who could motivate England to perform above themselves? Ron Atkinson, at Aston Villa, has the knack: Terry Venables, provided he extricates himself from the mire at Tottenham Hotspur, has the self-belief, the ego, and, most important of all, the

experience of having worked and played in foreign climates to do the job in the short term.

Taylor was wrong when he said: "If Linaker isn't scoring the goals, someone else will. Who? Apart from David Platt, with his phenomenal instinct to out-score each and every forward named, there is nobody. Was it not extraordinary that Ian Wright should fall again? Twice he was complete-

ly through the fallible United States defence but was twice beaten by Tony Meola, the goalkeeper. Taylor said he believed England's performance was not as bad as the result, that "four magnificent saves from the goalkeeper" deprived England of victory.

To suggest England's defeat lay solely at the hands of an inspired opposing goalkeeper is naive. Taylor, asked if this

was not the ultimate national disgrace, responded: "What can you do? All I can do is look for the turning point. There will be that point, I am confident. Just five weeks ago, we had that great game against Holland, we were 2-1 up with five minutes to go and we conceded a penalty. That was the turning point from which it has all gone wrong."

"When you are not getting the rub of the green, the only people who can pick you up are yourselves. But when people get knocked in life, it says your confidence. We have to be prepared to battle."

That is myopic. What is the manager saying? That the goalkeeper should not be so acrobatic and so instinctive? Had it not been for Gordon Banks, swooping to stop a header from Pelé in 1970, part of England's legend would never have built into the force that makes the whole world, minnows and giants, want to raise their game to beat the English.

It was wretched to see the old country not only go down

in New England to the most inglorious defeat in its footballing history but go down with ill temper and foul behaviour.

Paul Ince, the captain for the night, should have been sent off for the ugly lunge at the shin of Dooley, which put the goalscorer out of contention. David Batty gave away free-kicks with tackle after mistake. Worse was the constant bad-mouthing of Ian Wright.

"Wright could be in the NBA because he did so much trash-mouthing," Meola said. His reference was to the furore in American basketball about the attempts by some players to put opponents off their concentration by constant bickering, taunting and insulting. Wright is not alone in having grown up, if that is an apt description, with such indiscipline. But if he cannot cure it, then for all his speed and alertness around goal for Arsenal, he should not be near an England team.

"I will sleep at night," Taylor said. But he admitted there has never been a lower

point in his career. "There cannot be because I am the national manager representing the country. But you can't keep apologising. That is a result that is in the history books now. It will probably haunt me like it did Walter Winterbottom when he lost to the States in 1950."

Taylor locked the team in the dressing room for 25 minutes, saying there had been "a sensible talk". He said: "Anybody can rant and rave but we are in a battle, aren't we? We've got to stick it out and it's a battle we'll stick out together."

England talk fighting talk while the more advanced football world, now including the rookie United States, takes them apart with technique. What works in Watford does not travel and if the man in charge, for all his pugnacity, cannot see where the faults lie, it would be kinder to relieve him now rather than continue the suffering.

Letters, page 15  
Bitter defeat, page 42

## ENGLAND'S RECORD

## COMPETITIVE MATCHES

(EC) European Championship, (WC) World Cup  
October 17, 1990 (EC): England 2, Poland 0  
November 14, 1990 (EC): Ireland 1, England 1  
March 27, 1991 (EC): England 1, Ireland 1  
May 1, 1991 (EC): Turkey 0, England 1  
October 16, 1991 (EC): England 1, Turkey 0  
November 11, 1991 (EC): Poland 1, England 1  
June 11, 1992 (EC): England 0, Denmark 0  
June 16, 1992 (EC): England 0, France 0  
June 17, 1992 (EC): England 1, Sweden 2  
October 14, 1992 (WC): England 1, Norway 1  
November 18, 1992 (WC): England 4, Turkey 0  
February 17, 1993 (WC): England 3, San Marino 0  
March 31, 1993 (WC): Turkey 0, England 2  
April 28, 1993 (WC): England 2, Holland 2  
May 29, 1993 (WC): Poland 1, England 1  
June 2, 1993 (WC): Norway 2, England 0  
Record: played 16, won 6, drawn 8, lost 2  
Overall record: Played 33, won 16, drawn 12, lost 5

## OTHER INTERNATIONALS

September 12, 1990: England 1, Hungary 0  
February 6, 1991: England 2, Cameroon 0  
May 21, 1991: England 3, USSR 1  
May 25, 1991: England 2, Argentina 2  
June 1, 1991: Australia 0, England 1  
June 3, 1991: New Zealand 0, England 1  
June 8, 1991: New Zealand 0, England 2  
June 12, 1991: Malaysia 2, England 4  
September 11, 1991: England 0, Germany 1  
February 18, 1992: England 2, France 0  
March 25, 1992: Czechoslovakia 2, England 2  
April 29, 1992: CIS 2, England 2  
May 12, 1992: Hungary 0, England 1  
May 17, 1992: England 1, Brazil 1  
June 3, 1992: Finland 1, England 2  
September 9, 1992: Spain 1, England 0  
June 9, 1993: United States 2, England 0  
Record: played 17, won 10, drawn 4, lost 3

## Americans revel in upset League blocks Barnet deal

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

THE United States football team's stunning 2-0 victory over England left the handful of the game's enthusiasts here delirious with joy, and legions of other sports followers wondering if they might have a new game to follow.

Football has traditionally been well down the list in the American sporting mind, but yesterday it was front-page news, despite competition from two important events in the US sporting calendar: the first game in the National Basketball Association finals and the Stanley Cup ice hockey final.

Inevitably, the football team's victory was portrayed as little short of revolutionary. "Red Coats in Massachusetts? You already know the result!" trumpeted the *New York Times*. "It was another in a series of shots heard

around the world," crowed *The New York Post*. "First it was the American Revolution... yesterday, it came off the head of Thomas Dooley."

The triumphant mood was hardly impaired by the fact that only a few Americans knew the game was being played, and even fewer watched it.

As host country of the 1994 World Cup, the United States has slowly started to wake up to football in recent years. The sport still lags in the American sporting consciousness, somewhere below golf and just above ten-pin bowling. Footballers are known, somewhat derisively, as "booters" in the American sporting press and some reporters feel it necessary to include a brief reminder of the rules.

But the victory may bring about a small revolution in

this, for if there is one thing Americans like more than baseball, basketball, American football, tennis, boxing and ice hockey, it is winning.

"It's a monumental one for our country," Hank Steinbrecher, executive director of the US federation, said. "You never have to talk about 1950" when the US beat England 1-0 in the World Cup.

"This was a win, not a victory," the US team coach, Bora Milutinovic, said. "A victory is winning the World Cup. At least there is one aspect to this upset from which England might take consolation. The recent popularity of American sport on British television may be about to be reciprocated, even though it has taken an embarrassing defeat to bring it about.

BARNET edged closer to collapse yesterday when the Football League blocked a proposed rescue package for the second division club.

A consortium had offered to buy a £250,000 stake in the club, which is £1.3 million in debt, but had stipulated that the league would have to release the £91,000 withheld from it in lieu of fines imposed. Yesterday, the league turned down the request and told Barnet that the club must give an assurance that it can fulfil its fixtures next season by 11am today.

The league's annual meeting starts in Walsall an hour later, and although Barnet's plight is not on the agenda it seems that they will either eventually be expelled or be forced into receivership. Halifax Town, who had been relegated to the GM Vauxhall

BY KEITH PIKE

Conference, would then almost certainly be relieved, with Walsall taking Barnet's place in the second division next season.

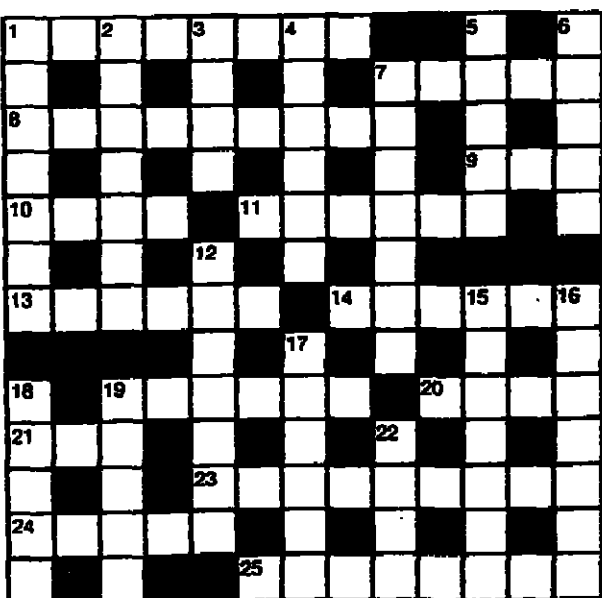
"They can set as many deadlines as they like and there is nothing we can do about it," Stanley Beller, the club's company secretary, said. "All our directors have commitments and it may be impossible to meet in the morning. I doubt whether we would be able to satisfy them. They are making unwarranted demands on us."

Edwin Stein, the Barnet manager, said he had expected the rescue bid to fail. "The league was perfectly within its rights to refuse the request," he said. "There are rules and regulations which every club has to adhere to and we have not done it consistently this season."

Stein said he believed Barnet, formed in 1898, could have been saved had the Football League commission, which fined Barnet twice last season, taken action against the then chairman, Stan Plastman.

"I will go to Walsall and try to make a case for Barnet, but I don't hold out much hope," Stein said. If Barnet do fold, they would be the third club to go under in 15 months, following the demise of Aldershot and Maidstone United last year.

David Dent, the league's secretary, said it had considered Barnet's request "at some length" before rejecting it. In a letter faxed to the club, he wrote: "Of course, the league has a duty to support and encourage every club, but lending money is clearly outside its remit."



## CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 3119

## ACROSS

- 1 Priest's robing room (8)
- 7 Swelling (5)
- 8 Treat badly (9)
- 9 Scold (3)
- 10 Land (4)
- 11 Cried (6)
- 13 Prayer beads (6)
- 14 Beaten (6)
- 19 Hydrophobia (6)
- 20 Prank (4)
- 21 Fish ovary (3)
- 23 Polished (9)
- 24 Dirty (5)
- 25 Dogged (8)

## DOWN

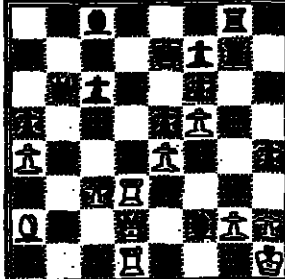
- 1 Like (7)
- 2 Weekend clothes (7)
- 3 Mosque leader (4)
- 4 Monotony (6)
- 5 Dull (5)
- 6 Bunker iron (5)
- 7 50s youth (7)
- 12 Mosmer (3,4)
- 15 Knack (4,3)
- 16 Feared (7)
- 17 Hunt (6)
- 18 Dirt (5)
- 19 Arrive at (5)
- 22 Untamed (4)

## SOLUTIONS TO NO 3118

ACROSS: 7 Purr 8 Aquarium 9 Wizard 10 Beyond  
11 Many 12 Argonaut 15 Sinker 17 Slim 18 Plural  
21 Opener 22 Tribunal 23 Cosh  
DOWN: 1 Ruminant 2 Freaky 3 Hardtack 4 Dumb  
5 Crayon 6 Turn 13 Gargyle 14 Universe 16 Enrobe  
17 Speech 19 Lark 20 Link

By Raymond Keene,  
Chess Correspondent

This position is a possible finish from the game Short - Kamsky, Tilburg 1991. White has given up a piece, but has a powerful line-up on the d-file. How does he make the most of this? To book your seat for *The Times* World Chess Championship match between Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short ring First Call on 071-497 9977.



Solution on page 42  
Championship Chess, page 6

## By PHILIP HOWARD

## TROG

- a. A spelologist
- b. A down-table sub
- c. A triangular brick

## BOBACHEE

- a. A trainee stockbroker
- b. A male cook
- c. A shilling

## LOULOU

- a. A prostitute
- b. A pomeranian
- c. Turkish delight

Answers on page 42

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